

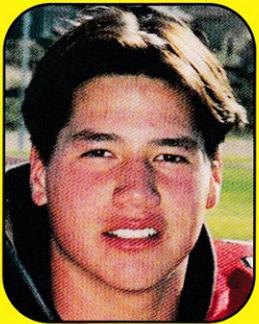
Barry Sollenberger's 1994 Flagstaff

FOOTBALL

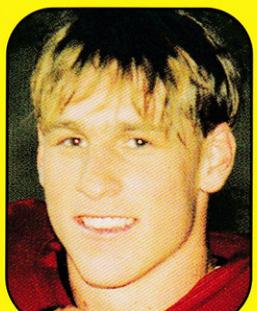
PREVIEWING HIGH SCHOOL
& COLLEGE FOOTBALL
IN NORTHERN ARIZONA



JON GUNZEL
Payson



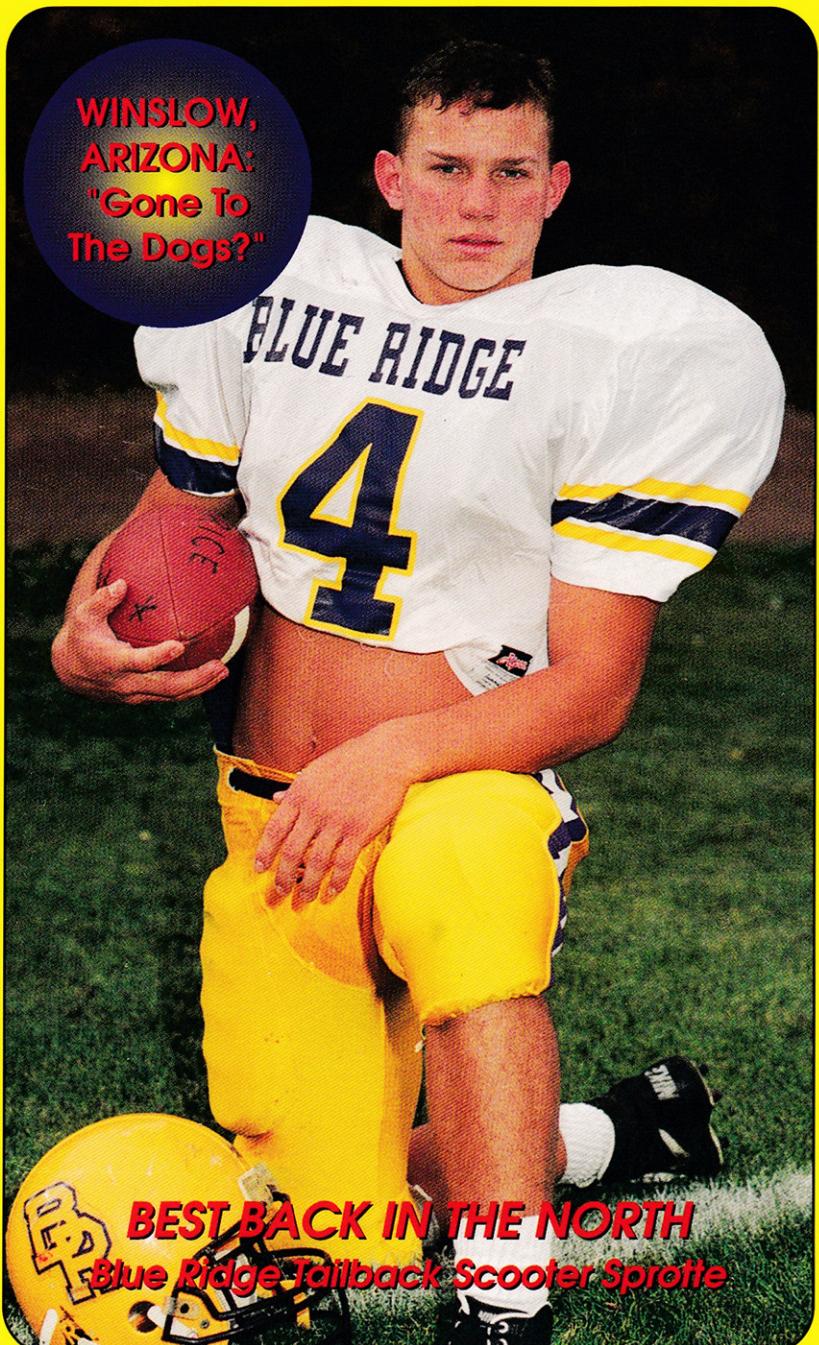
HEATH MELTON
Mingus Union



MARCUS BELL
St. Johns



SHANNON BRITT
Flagstaff



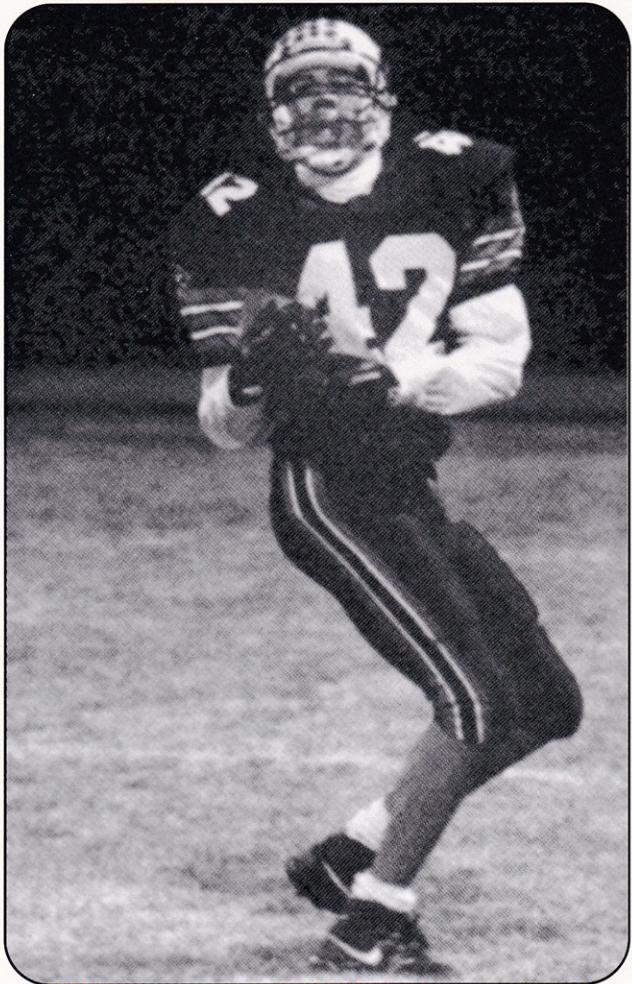
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**Salutes the
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Players of the Year**

1993 .. Mark Young, Coconino, WR
1992 .. Jimmy Sprotte, Blue Ridge, LB
1991 .. Jim Richardson, Bradshaw Mtn., QB (jr)
1990 .. Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, RB/DB
1989 .. Mike Johnson, Parker, WR
1988 .. Sam Austrino, Prescott, NG
1987 .. Drayton Martin, Round Valley, DB
1986 .. Tim Landers, Round Valley, T
1985 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, RB
1984 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, RB (jr)
1983 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, QB
1982 .. Gary McEwen, Snowflake, QB
1981 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, RB
1980 .. Greg Topp, Flagstaff, QB
1979 .. Greg Turner, Flagstaff, RB
1978 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, RB
1977 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, RB (jr)
1976 .. Willard Reeves, Coconino, RB
1975 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, RB
1974 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, RB
1973 .. Dwain Smith, Winslow, RB
1972 .. Carl Russell, McNary, QB
1971 .. Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, RB
1970 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, RB
1969 .. Tom Gillmore, Winslow, LB
1968 .. Roosevelt Van, Winslow, B
1967 .. Jerry Russell, McNary, HB



*Coconino High wide receiver Mark Young.
(Arizona Daily Sun photo)*

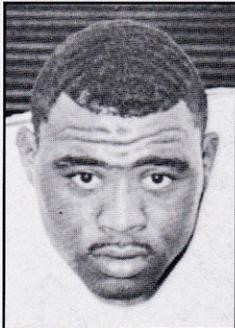
1966 .. Bill White, Kingman, T
1965 .. Alex Nish, Kingman, C
1964 .. Mike Madeo, Winslow, FB
1963 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, B
1962 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, B (jr)
1961 .. Jack Miller, Flagstaff, DB
1960 .. Prestons Dragons, Flagstaff, E
1959 .. Lance Penrod, Lakeside, QB
1958 .. Joe Spear, Snowflake, HB
1957 .. Lonnie Lund, Round Valley, HB
1956 .. Bob Rothlisberger, St. Johns, E
1955 .. Charlie Jones, Prescott, RB
1954 .. Charlie Jones, Prescott, RB (jr)
1953 .. Paul McCormick, Winslow, RB
1952 .. J.B. Brown, Flagstaff, E

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Salute the

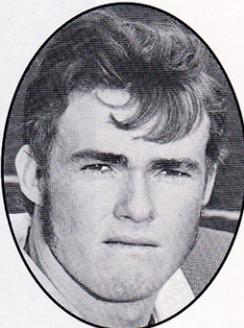
BRIAN MURRAY AWARD WINNERS



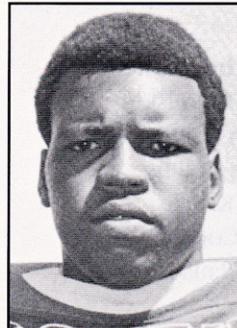
Curley Culp
Yuma



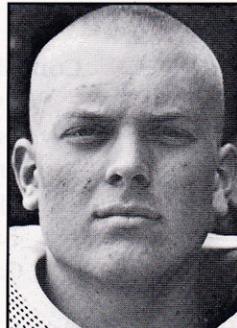
Bill Dawson
Tucson



Brian Murray
Salpointe



Glen Gresham
Phoenix Union



John Tait
McClintock

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL LINEMAN

1993 Todd Thompson, Tucson Sahuaran (DL)
1992 John Tait, Tempe McClintock (OT)
1991 Willie Walker, Tucson Desert View (DL)
1990 Grady Stretz, Tempe McClintock (DL)
1989 Mike Ciasca, Tucson Sahuaran (OT)
1988 Eric Ipock, Peoria (OT)
1987 Richard Griffith, Tucson Catalina (DL)
1986 Tim Landers, Round Valley (DT)
1985 Gary Pay, Glendale Apollo (OT)
1984 Vincent Byrd, Eloy Santa Cruz (DT)
1983 Steve Spurling, Scottsdale Horizon (C)
1982 Richard Bear, Moon Valley (DT)
1981 Frank Rudolph, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1980 Tom Briehl, Phoenix Gerard (T)
1979 Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (DL)
1978 Doug Kellermeyer, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1977 Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (C)
1976 Jack Housely, Phoenix Maryvale (DL)
1975 Phil Hedrick, Phoenix Maryvale (T)
1974 Jimmy Moore, Tempe Marcos de Niza (DL)
1973 Jon Abbott, Phoenix Central (T)
1972 Keith Sobraske, Scottsdale Coronado (T)
1971 Mike Dawson, Tucson (T)
1970 Glen Gresham, Phoenix Union (OT)
1969 Roger Kronberg, Tempe (OT)
1968 Fernie Mendoza, Tucson Salpointe (T)
1967 Ken Hatcher, Mesa (C)
1966 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T)
1965 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T) jr.
1964 Richard Griffin, Mesa Westwood (OT)

1963 Curley Culp, Yuma (MG)
1962 (TIE) Gary Swift, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
..... Bob Bertelsen, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
1961 Allen Thorn, Phoenix St. Mary's (C)
1960 Ted Lawrence, South Mountain (G)
1959 Dennis Couse, Tucson (T)
1958 Stacey Ostland, South Mountain (C)
1957 Wayne Magnusson, Phoenix West (G)
1956 John Vucichevich, Miami (C)
1955 Sumner Smith, Phoenix Union (T)
1954 Al Carr, Phoenix Union (G)
1953 Dick Nordmeyer, Tucson (DT)
1952 Guy Barrickman, Tucson (T)
1951 Robert Green, Phoenix Carver (T) jr.
1950 Glenn Bowers, Mesa (G)
1949 Phil Russell, Phoenix St. Mary's (T)
1948 Roy Alba, Phoenix Union (G)
1947 Bill Workman, Mesa (C)
1946 Bill Penny, Yuma (T)
1945 Joe Kelley, Tucson (T)
1944 Bill Yeoman, Glendale (C)
1943 Bill Yeoman, Glendale (C) jr.

BRIAN MURRAY, a 1972 Salpointe H.S. grad, was a three-year starter at Arizona, and projected as a high NFL draft pick, but was killed in a fall at Redington Pass, between the Catalina and Rincon mountains, in 1977.

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GONE TO THE DOGS? Not this year, as Winslow's brain trust talks it over: L-R, Carl Weatherton, head coach Emil Nasser and trainer Herman McArthur. Between 1964-65, the Bulldogs went 20 consecutive games without a loss (see page 26).

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1994 Flagstaff Football

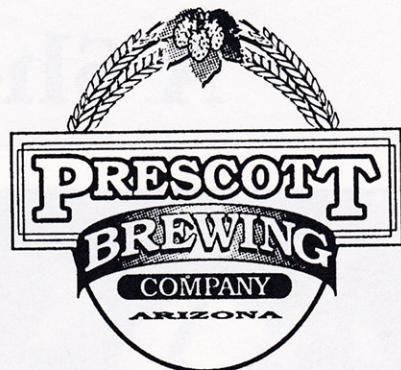
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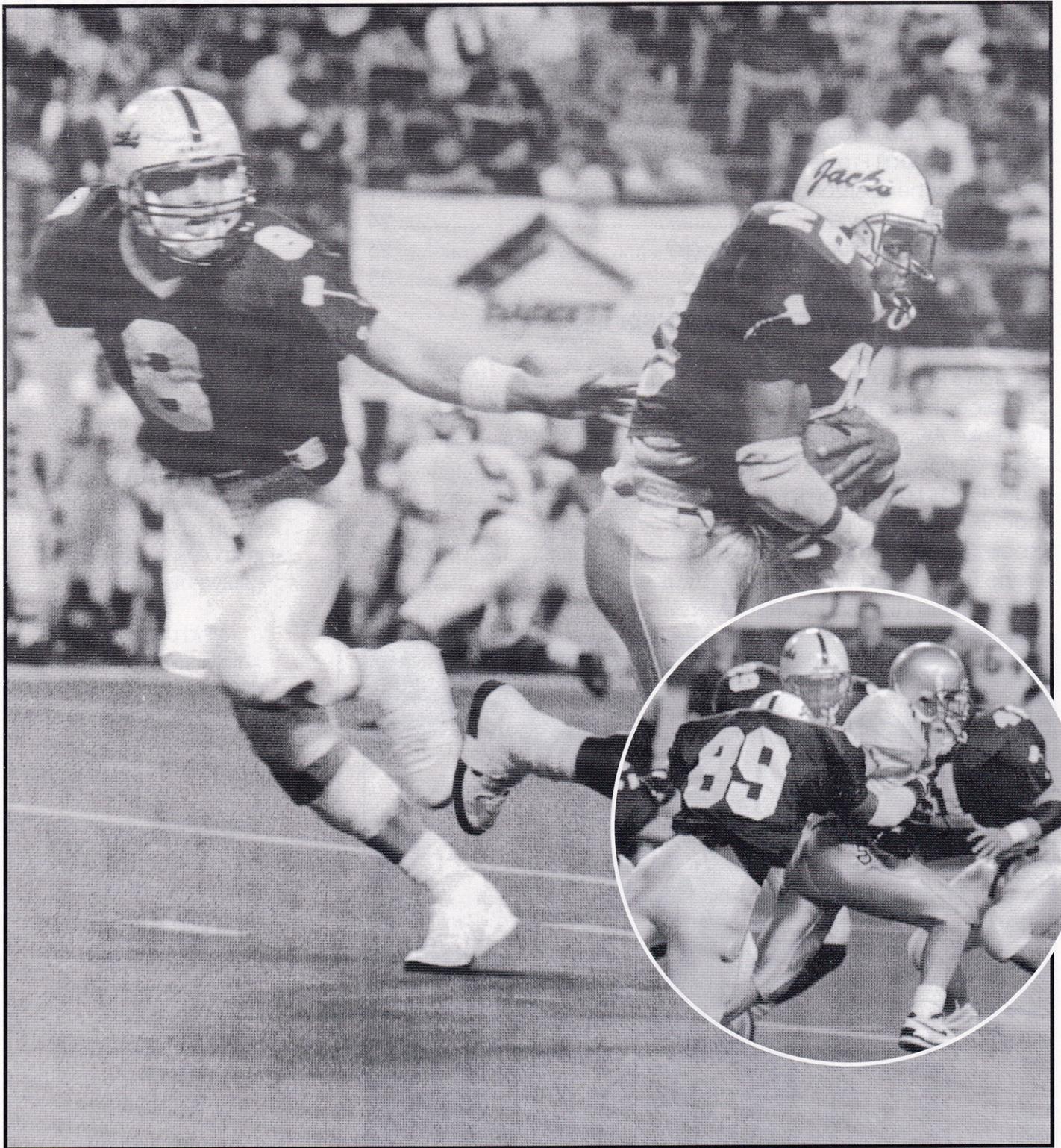
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Lumberjack Preview

A Shot at the Crown



With quarterback Jeff Lewis and halfback Len Raney back on offense, and the likes of Dennis Paige (89) back on defense, Lumberjack football is looking up.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JOURNAL

By Lonnie Collins

There's reason for excitement in Flagstaff. You can almost feel it in the air. The Lumberjacks, coached by Steve Axman, are anxious to get going.

With one of the best spring practices in recent years, plus momentum from an excellent 7-4 campaign last fall, it's easy to understand Axman's optimism.

"We're ready to get going," says the head coach. "We have a chance to improve on last year. We feel the time has come for NAU football. I think we have the nucleus for a very fine team."

Lots of excitement stems from 14 returning starters, including key offensive skill players, plus an excellent incoming recruiting class. But not to be forgotten is last year's 7-4 finish, the Lumberjacks' first winning season in five years.

Last year, the 'Jacks won their first six games, dropped four in a row, then clobbered Valparaiso 55-13 in their final in the Walkup Skydome.

On October 16, a home crowd of 15,288 watched the local club drop a 38-23 game to Montana. It was the largest crowd in the Dome in 13 years, and represented 32% of the population of the town. Or more than 75% of the enrollment of the school. According to school officials, Walkup seats 15,300.

"We need to improve our defense," claims Axman. "Recruiting big, fast linebackers in our conference is a tremendous plus. Those are the type of people that you can use in so many different ways."

And that's exactly what his staff did, landing JC transfers Tyrone Coleman (6-3, 225), Stacey Ellis (5-11, 210)

and James Taylor (6-1, 210), all California kids who can fly.

Offensively, junior quarterback Jeff Lewis is the key. The former Scottsdale Horizon star passed for 2,497 yards last year, and has started in 17 games. His biggest day was a 353-yard outing against Idaho, a game the "Jacks dropped 31-27. The all-conference candidate will be backed up by Manny Guardiola, a transfer from New Mexico, and Scott Partridge, a former Scottsdale Chaparral star who is also a good punter.

Basically, the wide receiver corps returns intact, led by Rod Alexander (48 catches), Rod Marshall (46) and Alex Calderwood (20). Wide-out Chris Warner caught only six passes, but averaged 26.2 yards per play. Junior tight end Mason Hess (6-5, 235), a former Phoenix Thunderbird product, caught just seven, but is expected to come into his own and more than double that.

Of course, at the running back slot, NAU has one of the premier runners in the conference in Len Raney. The 5-10, 190-pound senior from Hoover High in Fresno, Ca., carried the ball 152 times for 592 net yards and nine touchdowns. The coaches agree that a good running game will give balance to a good passing attack. "The big thing with Len is keeping him healthy," adds Axman.

But the real story is up front, in the offensive line. The staff is glad to have big Art McDonald (6-5, 295) back on the roster. The former Scottsdale Horizon standout is back in the lineup after missing a season. Donald Jacobs (6-3, 280), until he injured a knee at the end of the season, really

1994 NAU Schedule

Sept. 3	.....@ Nevada
Sept. 10	.....Southern Utah
Sept. 17	.....Idaho State
Sept. 24	.....@ Montana State
Oct. 1	.....Boise State
Oct. 8	.....@ Montana
Oct. 15	.....Eastern Washington
Oct. 22	.....@ Idaho
Oct. 29	.....Weber State
Nov. 5	.....San Luis Obispo
Nov. 12	.....Cal State Northridge

did a job at center. Big Eric Freund (6-5, 265), Victor Hernandez (6-2, 280), and Bill Sowders (6-4, 260) return, along with a good looking group of newcomers.

The kicking game, of course, has been a Lumberjack strength for years. Last year was no exception. But three-time All-American Terry Belden is gone, drafted and signed by the CFL's new entry in Las Vegas. During a 23-9 win over Cal State Northridge, the former Glendale High all-stater provided a highlight reel, nailing field goals from 60, 54 and 50 yards. Axman's staff recruited excellent kickers from the JC ranks, including Roger Schenks and Kevin O'Leary, plus Partridge from Scottsdale CC.

"We're looking forward to a much more competitive schedule than we had last year," adds Axman. "I think the big addition is to play a Division I team in the form of Nevada in our opener. I think that is going to be an awfully challenging game for us to start with, but it's a game that we're really looking forward to. That's an awfully tough place to play."

For diehard Lumberjack fans, their school signed several key instate recruits from good Arizona programs, including RB Jay Carter (5-9, 180) from Tempe Mountain Pointe, LB Seth Darst (6-2, 210) from Mesa Mountain View, OL Dan Finn (6-4, 270) of Mesa Westwood, LB Justin Newman (6-2, 205) of Blue Ridge, QB Nathan Sanders (6-2, 185) from Peoria, DB Kevin Shelton (5-10, 180) out of Tucson High, and DE Nick Petrucci (6-3, 220) from Flagstaff High.

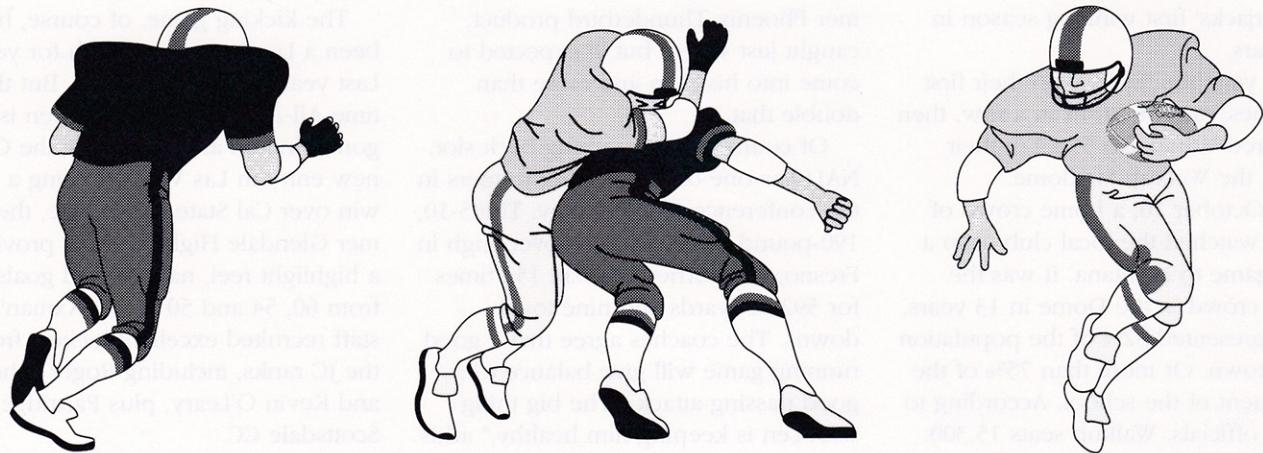
Best of the Lumberjacks

QB	Jeff Lewis	6-3, 1205, Jr.
RB	Len Raney	5-10, 183, Sr.
HB.....	Brian Galbreath	5-10, 170, So.
WR.....	Rod Alexander	6-0, 195, Sr.
DT	Chris West	6-2, 250, Sr.
DE.....	Frank Romano	6-3, 230, Sr.
DB	Jeff Bergman	6-0, 195, Sr.
DB	Alex Marcellin.....	6-0, 192, Sr.

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1994 Northern Arizona FRIDAY NIGHT HEROES



Speedy Sam Laurella averaged 10.2 yards per carry and scored 16 touchdowns (Wickenburg Sun photo).

Flagstaff Football Magazine's checklist of outstanding varsity players for the 1994 high school football season:

QB ... Shannon Britt, Flagstaff, 6-5, 200
RB ... Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 5-11, 205
RB ... Heath Melton, Mingus Union, 5-10, 185
RB ... Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 6-2, 205
RB ... Sam Laurella, Wickenburg, 5-9, 180
RB ... Josh Bradford, Flagstaff, 5-9, 160 (jr)
TE ... Jon Gunzel, Payson, 6-4, 230
TE ... Alex Sutton, Kingman, 6-2, 185
OL ... Dan Green, Mingus Union, 5-10, 215
OL ... Victor Hershberger, Blue Ridge, 6-2, 230
OL ... Willie Weatherby, Bradshaw Mtn, 6-2, 235
DL ... B.J. Reeves, Show Low, 6-1, 270
DB ... Rich Tenney, Prescott, 5-10, 170
DB ... David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-0, 175 (jr)
DB ... Peter Merrill, Blue Ridge, 6-2, 175
DB ... Jeremy Ryan, St. Johns, 6-2, 180
DB ... Cameron LaDuke, Snowflake, 5-9, 175
LB ... Tim Coffey, Winslow, 6-1, 200
LB ... Trent Nichols, Holbrook, 6-2, 202
LB ... Mike King, St. Johns, 6-2, 215
RS ... Melville Calabaca, Chinle, 6-2, 185
K ... Mike Howe, Payson, 6-1, 230



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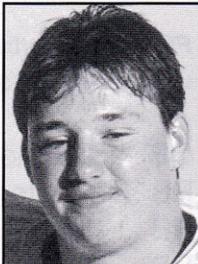
"Good luck coaches and teams in 1994!"

Kerry Hurst/Owner

1994 Northern Arizona Checklist of Players

quarterbacks

Shannon Britt, Flagstaff, 6-5, 200
Jason Curley, Ganado, 5-11, 170
*Jeff Dent, Williams, 6-1, 210
Dan Dunn, Payson, 6-3, 170
Russ Jones, Blue Ridge, 6-2, 195
*Jason Kelly, Mayer, 6-1, 165 (jr)
Dru Martinson, Fountain Hills, 6-3, 185
David Moran, Brad. Mtn., 6-0, 175 (jr)



*Tim Coffey,
Winslow*



*Cameron LaDuke,
Snowflake*

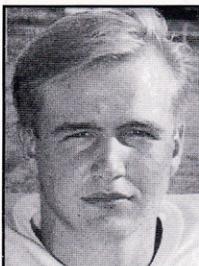
Byron Quinlan, Payson, 5-9, 155
Derek Reidburn, Brad. Mtn., 5-9, 160 (jr)
Brandon Rooney, Lake Havasu, 5-9, 155
Jeremy Ryan, St. Johns, 6-2, 180
*Edgar Solano, Williams, 6-0, 170
Kawika Stant, Holbrook, 5-10, 165
Rich Tenney, Prescott, 5-10, 170
Ryan Tkalcevic, Page, 6-1, 180 (jr)
*Tim Walsh, Mayer, 6-0, 165
Matt Welly, Mingus Union, 6-2, 195
Darren Yazzie, Chinle, 5-6, 155
Spencer Young, Mingus Union, 6-1, 170 (jr)

running backs

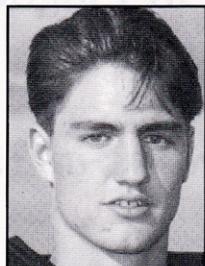
Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 6-2, 205
Josh Bradford, Flagstaff, 5-9, 160 (jr)
Milo Brown, Round Valley, 5-10, 180
Chuck Goudeau, Hopi, 5-10, 170 (jr)
*Paul Hines, Mayer, 6-1, 190
Jack Johnson, Show Low, 5-11, 180
Sam Laurella, Wickenburg, 5-9, 180
Heath Melton, Mingus Union, 5-10, 185
Jabarra Nichols, Flagstaff, 5-9, 180
Mack Peterson, Snowflake, 6-0, 155 (jr)
T.J. Pierce, Coconino, 6-0, 175
Darwin Reid, Monument Valley, 5-8, 155
Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 5-11, 205
Bronson Taylor, Parker, 5-11, 170
*Ronnie Williams, Bagdad, 6-0, 155

receivers

Lance Awbrey, Sinagua, 6-2, 205
Melville Calabaca, Chinle, 6-2, 185
*Sam Davis, Williams, 6-1, 170
Jon Gunzel, Payson, 6-4, 230
*Mike Gutierrez, Mayer, 6-2, 210
Jared Howard, Camp Verde, 5-11, 175
Chris Mansfield, Hopi, 5-6, 150
*Bernard Rock, Orme School, 5-9, 150 (jr)
Isaac Snyder, Wickenburg, 6-2, 170
Alex Sutton, Kingman, 6-2, 185
Freddie Williams, Coconino, 5-9, 155



*Jace Green,
Snowflake*



*David Moran,
Bradshaw Mtn.*

centers

Josh Fousel, Blue Ridge, 5-8, 180
Kody Kelton, Payson, 6-1, 195
Doug Martinez, Mohave, 5-10, 205
Frankie Vicente, Prescott, 5-11, 220

linemen

Mike Amdahl, Fountain Hills, 6-3, 220
Thompson Begay, Tuba City, 6-1, 220
Jeremy Blancato, River Valley, 5-11, 215
Brent Calkins, Payson, 6-2, 202
*Marshall Clark, Salome, 5-10, 185
Scott Compson, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-3, 240
Nathan Cordova, Brad. Mtn., 5-11, 230
Kirk Dykman, Kingman, 6-5, 250 (jr)
Dan Green, Mingus Union, 5-10, 215
Robert Haws, Round Valley, 6-7, 245
Victor Hershberger, Blue Ridge, 6-2, 230
Emerson James, Ganado, 6-3, 187
*Cody McDonald, Orme School, 5-11, 198
Matt Owens, Mogollon, 6-3, 225 (jr)
Jeff Pourier, Window Rock, 6-4, 260 (so)
B.J. Reeves, Show Low, 6-1, 270
Levi Shaffer, Miami, 6-3, 240
Ryan Taylor, Holbrook, 5-9, 180
Drew Tucker, Prescott, 6-3, 220
Dustin Udall, St. Johns, 6-3, 240
Willie Weatherby, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-2, 235
Jarom Willis, Round Valley, 5-10, 175
*Eric Woodard, Orme School, 6-2, 205
Rusty Zahnter, River Valley, 6-0, 175
Joe Zender, Mingus Union, 6-2, 225

deep backs

Cliff Bryson, Coconino, 5-11, 160
Frank Girardi, Blue Ridge, 5-8, 165
Cameron LaDuke, Snowflake, 5-9, 175
Peter Merrill, Blue Ridge, 6-2, 175
David Mireles, Mohave, 6-0, 180
David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-0, 175 (jr)
A.J. Planeta, Sinagua, 5-10, 175

linebackers

Brad Baca, St. Johns, 5-11, 185
Tim Coffey, Winslow, 6-1, 200
Jace Green, Snowflake, 5-10, 190
Justin Jensen, Mohave, 5-11, 190
Mike Jones, Chino Valley, 6-0, 190
*Clay Kelton, Mayer, 5-11, 190
Mike King, St. Johns, 6-2, 215
Adam Larsen, Winslow, 6-2, 200
David Linderholm, Flagstaff, 6-0, 205
Trent Nichols, Holbrook, 6-2, 202
Colby Paquette, Blue Ridge, 6-1, 180
Shonie Reese, Page, 6-0, 175
*Alvin Saenz, Orme School, 5-9, 202

kickers

*Orlando Cleto, Salome, 5-5, 145 (jr)
Mike Howe, Payson, 6-1, 230
Robert Nelson, Winslow, 6-0, 190 (jr)

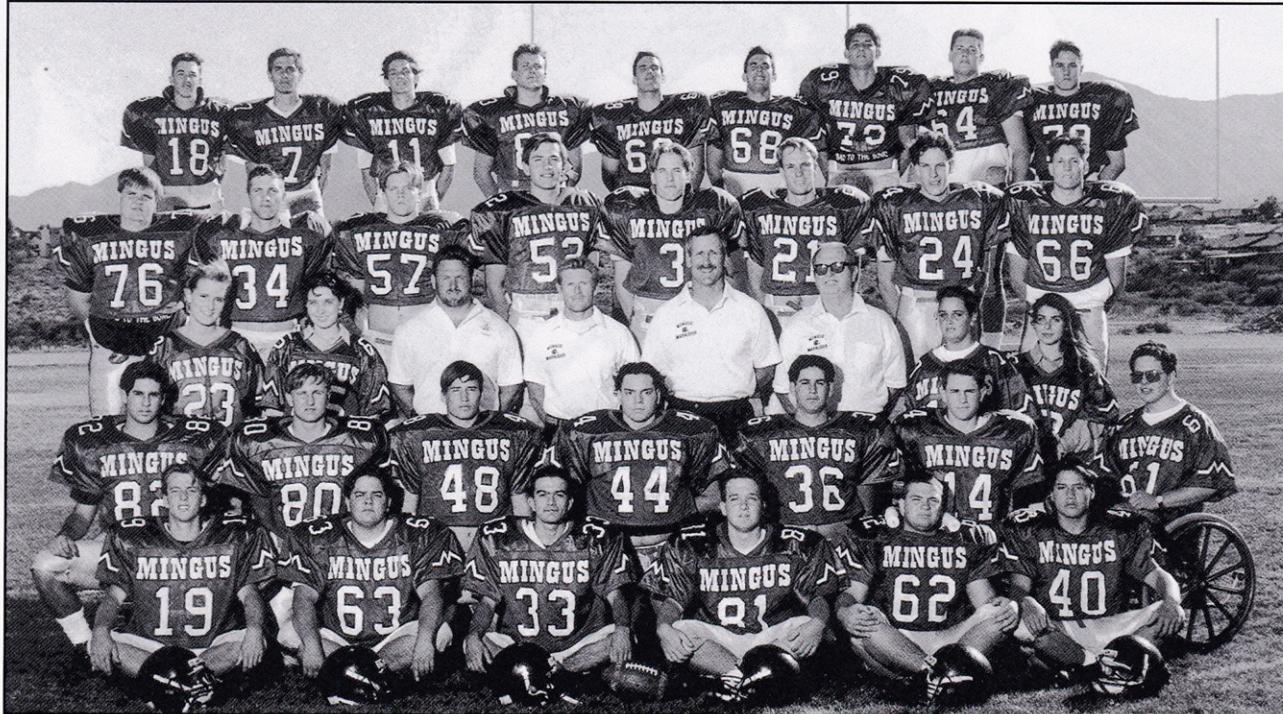
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Cottonwood, Arizona



Kingman fullback Frank Nezdoba follows a block by Dan Napier during a surprising 33-0 rout of Flagstaff High at the Walkup Skydome. (Kingman Miner photo by Dan Johnson)

Flagstaff Takes to the Airways

4A GRAND CANYON FLAGSTAFF

When diehard schoolboy football fans in northern Arizona talk about great running backs, they talk about Flagstaff High.

Period.

No other school in the north comes close. Backs like James Dugan, Greg Turner, Stan Gill, David Winsley and Caesar Polk are legends.

But this fall the screaming Eagles may switch from a ground game to an air attack. And why not, with talented quarterback Shannon Britt (6-5, 200) back in the lineup. In fact, it was an injury to Britt, during the third game last season, which hurt the most. He went down against Prescott and never recovered. Neither did the Eagles, who finished 3-7.

But he's back, and so is Craig Holland, the former head coach who stepped down after the 1990 campaign.

Holland has been in the program for years. During his six years as head mentor, Flag High went 45-24 (.652) and reached the playoffs four times. His '85 club went 9-2 and '88 squad 10-3.

"Offensively, we averaged over 20 points last year," says Holland. "But we gave up 24 per game. Our main concern is to shore up our defense."

With a healthy Britt throwing better than ever, Flag could have one of the state's premier passing attacks. In less than three games, Britt completed 33 of 56 passes (59%) for 343 yards and four touchdowns. Then he got hurt.

Junior tight end Jesse Page (6-5, 200), and wide receivers Mike Sciacca (6-0, 170, jr.) and Zack Wells (6-1, 190) are three excellent skill players with speed. Sciacca is a 15.2 high hurdler. Adding junior tailback Josh Bradford (5-9, 160, jr.) and fullback Jabarha Nichols (5-9, 180) should make for an exciting offense. Sciacca and Bradford run 40

yards in 4.55 seconds on the carpet.

Tackle Jason Alexander (6-2, 238), linebackers David Turner (6-2, 185) and David Linderholm (6-0, 205), and defensive backs Tony Hernandez (5-8, 160), Russ Kimberlin (5-7, 155), Vincente Alonzo (5-9, 160) and Franco McCain (6-3, 180) will anchor the defense. McCain made 70 tackles, recovered a fumble, and grabbed four interceptions. Junior Josh Watts is a promising underclassman.

MINGUS UNION

Some things never change. Like Mingus Union High School winning the Grand Canyon Region football title. Coach Bill Rudolph's crew did it again, going 10-0 during regular season play.

"We had a great regular season," says the school's all-time winningest coach. "But we had a disappointing playoff season. We need to improve on that."

That disappointing game Rudolph

ALL-TIME ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL VICTORIES

Wins	School	Years
528	Mesa	1920-93
476	Tucson	1912-93
433	Safford	1925-93
400	Winslow	1915-93
396	Round Valley	1921-93
391	Phoenix St. Mary's	1938-93
389	Gilbert	1923-93
387	Douglas	1906-93
364	Flagstaff	1923-93
359	Snowflake	1929-93
358	Miami	1923-93
353	Phoenix Union	1913-81
336	Tempe	1924-93
333	Tucson Amphitheater	1939-93
306	Globe	1924-93

refers to was a 50-23 loss to Westview. Still, the Marauders' football future looks bright, with an unbeaten (9-0) junior varsity on the way.

Although only seven varsity lettermen return, most are key players, starting with all-state halfback Heath Melton (5-10, 185), a senior with 4.7 speed. Last fall Melton averaged 9.3 yards per carry, rushing 175 times for 1,628 yards and scoring 25 touchdowns.

Junior Spencer Young (6-1, 170) will take over the signal calling, replacing graduated QB Joey Mongini. However, Young's forte is in the secondary, where he intercepted six passes. Last spring he was an all-state infielder in baseball. Two-way back Matt Welly (6-2, 195) picked off two, and if Melton ever joined them, Rudolph's secondary would be top-notch.

Big Joe Zender (6-2, 225) is an excellent defensive end, while linebacker Dan Green (5-10, 215) doubles at offensive guard. Last year, these additional sophs joined Young on the varsity roster: Barney Hernandez, Wes Whittaker, Matt DeVlieger, Jim Moore, Aaron Mikulewicz, Joe French and Jeremy Bratten.

This fall, the Marauders' enrollment will dip a little, as an estimated 200 students will transfer to the new school in Sedona, Red Rock High.

KINGMAN

The Bulldogs caught the town by

storm last year. Coach Ray Smith's club got hot in the playoffs, then fell to eventual state champ Marana Mountain View, 34-13, finishing 9-3. Record-wise, it was one of the best teams in the school's history.

"Our kids played hard and came on in the playoffs," says Smith, who returns lots of skill people but must develop linemen in the offseason.

However, he won't have far to look to find a TE/DE, since talented Alex Sutton

two-way seniors Jermain Toney, Heber Nelson and Kevin Brown in the lineup. Offensively, all three help Smith's Wing-T click, as running backs or receivers. Linebackers Mike Esquibel and Frank Nezdoba are starters. Nezdoba (see photo) also plays fullback.

Kingman was mostly a senior dominated club, as their won-loss record showed. But the above letter winners, if they stay healthy, could get the Dogs' back in the playoffs. Depth will be a problem.

COCONINO

The Panthers, coached by George Moate, lasted one round into the playoffs, falling to Prescott and finishing 6-4-1. Now, Coconino must live life after Mark Young, one of the state's premier receivers, selected Northern Arizona Player of the Year (see chart). He now plays for Mesa Community College.

Several Panthers earned all-region honors, but all but one, WR Freddie Williams (5-9, 155), were seniors. Williams also earned all-city recognition as a defensive back. He got in on 68 tackles and picked off three passes - returning one for a touchdown - and was the perfect complement to Young at receiver. He had 33 catches for 526 yards.

Senior Cliff Bryson (5-11, 170) should compete for the QB position, but also starts in the secondary. Linebacker T. J. Pierce (6-0, 175) starts in the backfield. Altogether, 15 underclassmen dotted the Panthers' '93 roster, including QB/DB Nels Hammack, WR/DB Chris Massey, OG/LB Brian Davidson, OT/LB Jamie Padilla, OG/DE John Homyak, OG/DE Reuben Gibbs, OT/DE Jimmy Gray, OT/DT Jason Underwood, OT/DT Leon Manuel, TE/LB David Mizer, and receivers Patterson Whitehat and Richard Slay. Newcomer J.P. Simo (6-3, 250), like Underwood, is another big member of the junior class.

MOHAVE

Maybe, just maybe, the Thunderbirds are ready to bust out. After head coach Terry King's initial 8-3 campaign in 1990, his football machine has experienced three straight 3-7 campaigns. T'Bird fans hope those days are over.

"We split schools two years ago and our numbers have been down," explains King. "We only had 10 seniors go out last year. We played 10 sophomores. We

1994 Northern Arizona Prep Poll

CLASS 4A

1. Flagstaff Eagles
2. Mingus Union Marauders
3. Kingman Bulldogs
4. Coconino Panthers
5. Mohave Thunderbirds
6. Page Sand Devils
7. Prescott Badgers
8. Sinagua Mustangs

CLASS 3A

1. Blue Ridge Yellowjackets
2. Bradshaw Mountain Bears
3. Snowflake Lobos
4. Payson Longhorns
5. Winslow Bulldogs
6. Round Valley Elks
7. Parker Broncos
8. Holbrook Roadrunners

CLASS 2A

1. St. Johns Redskins
2. Wickenburg Wranglers
3. Camp Verde Cowboys
4. Chino Valley Cougars
5. Hopi Bruins

CLASS 1A (8-Man)

1. Mayer Wildcats
2. Williams Vikings
3. Orme School Warriors
4. Mogollon Mustangs
5. Fredonia Lynx

(6-2, 185) is back. A senior with 4.9 speed, he should be one of the better two-way players in the Grand Canyon Region. Big Kirk Dykman (6-5, 250), only a junior, might be one of the better two-way linemen.

The 'Dogs' secondary looks solid with

have quality players returning. We're optimistic."

King's staff has experience returning at quarterback, wideout and linebacker. Still, they need to develop linemen and a proven runner.

Replacing all-state tackle Terry Staggs and all-everything back Joey Capps (see record section) won't be easy. Seniors Justin Jensen (5-11, 190) and David Mireles (6-0, 180) give King depth at QB. Both are two-way players, with Jensen starting at LB, Mireles in the secondary.

The kicking game, so important in football, looks sound, with punter Kevin Reed (6-3, 240) and place kicker Jerry Owen (5-10, 210) back for two more years. When not kicking, Reed will start at TE, Owen at OG.

Wideout Sonny Gerber (6-0, 180), center Doug Martinez (5-10, 205), deep back Sean Bixenman (5-10, 180) and down lineman Ryan Thompson (5-9, 185) are four other seniors whose leadership is a key.

Other underclassmen to watch include wide bodies Blake Palmer (6-6, 275), Alex Cruz (6-2, 220) and Jason Slocum (5-10, 210), along with halfback Mose Love (6-1, 205), a promising sophomore runner. All these players played varsity ball last year.

PAGE

The Sand Devils took their lumps, starting as many as 10 sophomores, but hung in there and finished 4-6, best record in four years.

"We should be much more competitive," says second year coach Greg Asbury. "We will be a junior dominated squad, but have very good team speed. The addition of a JV team which swept all three Flag schools will help."

Still, seniors like linebacker Shonie Reese (6-0, 175) must show leadership, and all young teams need it. But the junior class is loaded, starting with Ryan Tkalcevic (6-1, 180), an honorable mention all-state defensive back with 4.6 speed. He'll be joined in the secondary by classmates Jud Douglas (6-1, 165) and Brian Hamilton (6-2, 185). Douglas should be the starting quarterback. The Sand Devils' best lineman is also a junior, two-way tackle Pat Tadytin (6-2, 300).

Page last appeared in the playoffs in 1986. That trip might be on the horizon in the near future.

SINAGUA

"Although it was a disappointing 4-6 finish, our players gave it their best effort," claims head coach Ed Campos, whose young school enters its fourth varsity campaign. "It was our toughest schedule to date."

The Mustangs look improved at the skill level, at tight end, QB and receiver. Still, they need to develop size and skill on both sides of the line of scrimmage. It's in the trenches where Sinagua has had its problems.

Campos and his staff feel that WB/DB A.J. Planeta (5-10, 175) and TE Lance Awbrey (6-2, 205) are two of the better players in the region. Brock Gates (5-11, 210) is a solid two-way lineman, while speedy (4.6) wideout Ryan Van Otten (5-8, 165) will be hard to cover.

If all the pieces fall into place, the Mustangs' success might ride on the shoulders of junior QB Scott Fiser (6-1, 175), a capable signal caller.

INDEPENDENT CHINLE

Last year Chinle finished 6-5, but according to the Wildcats' coach, Marty Conrad, they were 20 seconds away from being 8-3. "It's a game of inches, and we were real close," says Conrad. "It was a great season for the school, community and players."

It promises to be another outstanding year, with the return of senior Melville Calabaca (6-2, 185), a SE/RB/RS with 4.9 speed. A first-team all-region pick, Calabaca returned five punts for touchdowns and two kickoffs. He's the Cats' game breaker..

Little DB Darren Yazzie (5-6, 155) intercepted nine passes as a junior. Lawrence Chee (5-10, 185) must lead at quarterback. Besides Calabaca, Kevin Analla (5-9, 175) and Lenny Jones (5-10, 180) include the backfield. Junior Jefferson Jones (5-10, 195) might be the Cats' best lineman.

Gilbert Yazzie, a junior from Many Farms, and Dwayne Yazzie, a transfer from Idaho, will add to the offense.

4A WEST VALLEY LAKE HAVASU

The Knights, which lost over 20 consecutive games recently, have bounced back. Heading into last year's final they had a chance to break even.

Less than 50% of the Knights' roster

graduated, so experience is the name of the game. Two-way back Brandon Rooney (5-9, 155) is just one of 22 returning letter winners.

Many of the region's biggest players wear the Knights' Purple & Gold, including seniors Nick Jones (6-2, 214), Don Danielson (6-0, 210), Russell Dennis (6-4, 215), B.J. Scott (6-1, 204), Jeff Thuneman (6-1, 202), and juniors Beau Hensel (5-10, 247) and Matt Jenkins (6-1, 245), to name a few. Danielson and Thuneman started as sophomores. LHHS also has the league's smallest player, SE/CB Alex Ruiz (5-5, 125).

4A NORTH VALLEY PRESCOTT

It's a tough act to follow. The '93 edition of Badger football will go down as one of the school's best. Coach Bill Gahn's near perfect club (11-1) went two rounds into the 4A playoffs, before Tucson Sahuarro derailed his Wing-T, 14-3.

"It was really exciting," says Gahn, just two wins shy of 100 in Badgerland. "It was the best offense in my 15 years here."

He won't get any arguments from rival coaches in the North Valley Region, including Flagstaff Coconino, whom Prescott stuffed 34-19 in the playoff's first round. Throughout the year, most of the Badgers' victims were Phoenix schools.

"We'll be younger this year, with only seven seniors back from last year's varsity," adds Gahn. "We need to improve our defense if we're to win."

One defender who does return is safety-corner Rich Tenney (5-10, 170), an all-region pick who doubles at running back. He runs 40 yards in 4.7 seconds and will be the man to watch in Prescott's attack.

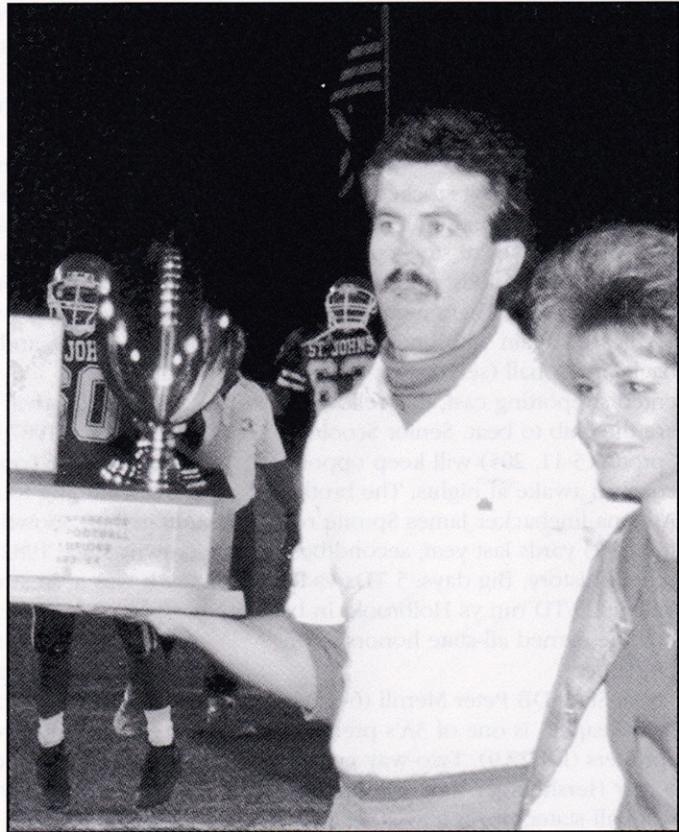
Senior Dustin Lacey (5-11, 165) and junior Mark Beneitone (5-11, 165) will compete for the QB slot. Frank Vicente (5-11, 220) is locked in at center. Drew Tucker (6-3, 220) and Dave Maldonado (6-4, 240) are probably the tackles. Steve Grant (6-3, 190) should be the tight end. If this group molds into a solid unit, Prescott's Wing-T should continue to roll with some big yardage.

On defense, improvement must come from deep backs Dale Barnette (5-10, 160), Nate Gahn (5-10, 175, jr.), Josh Steele (5-6, 160, jr.) and Brandon Lacey (5-11, 175), linebackers Dustin Parra (5-11, 190, jr.) and down lineman Dan Anderson (5-11, 190, jr.).

Arizona Coach of the Year

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1989 Gary Venturo, Tempe Corona del Sol
1988 Jerry Loper, Mesa Westwood
1987 Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson
1986 Jim Rattay, Mesa
1985 Jim Bevell, Scottsdale Chaparral
1984 Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's
1983 Jesse Parker, Mesa Mountain View
1982 Earl Putman, Moon Valley
1981 Richard Gray, Scottsdale Horizon
1980 Karl Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
1979 Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi
1978 Dan Dunn, Gilbert
1977 Jim Russum, Casa Grande
1976 Ed Anderson, Scottsdale Coronado
1975 Jerry Loper, Tucson Amphi
1974 Bill Epperson, Flagstaff Coconino
1973 Van Howe, Tucson Palo Verde
1972 Harvey Keeney, Miami
1971 Ollie Mayfield, Tucson
1970 Ed Hubbard, Pima
1969 Ray Laing, Phoenix Central
1968 Ike Sharp, Douglas
1967 Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's
1966 Lonnie Foster, Eloy Santa Cruz
1965 John Mallamo, Tucson
1964 Emil Nasser, Winslow
1963 Royal Price, Mesa
1962 Bob Hendricks, Scottsdale Arcadia



St. Johns' Mike Morgan and the Redskins have won two-straight 2A crowns. (Nick Worth photo)

1961 Lou Farber, Tucson Pueblo
1960 Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa
1959 Fred Bingham, Sunnyslope
1958 Phil Kreuger, Yuma Union
1957 Vern Braasch, Phoenix West
1956 John Zucco, Tempe
1955 Elmo Roundy, Snowflake
1954 Sam Winingham, Phoenix Union

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Head coach Gahn is 98-60-6 at the Prescott school.

3A EAST REGION BLUE RIDGE

You can't get much better than this:

Since 1987, Paul Moro's Purple Gang has gone 11-3, 11-1, 13-0, 9-4, 9-2, 10-1, 10-1, including three state crowns. That .859 winning percentage leads the state - all classes combined. Off the field, Moro's players spend the summer months gearing up for another run at the playoffs.

"That school isn't stocked with good football players, year after year," says a rival coach. "They're stocked with a lot of hard working kids who become good football players. That's a credit to Paul."

Blessed again with one of the best backs in 3A ball (see cover), plus a talented supporting cast, the Yellowjackets are the club to beat. Senior Scooter Sprotte (5-11, 205) will keep opposing coaches awake at nights. The brother of Arizona linebacker James Sprotte rushed for 1,893 yards last year, second best in school history. Big days: 5 TDs vs Round Valley; 95 TD run vs Holbrook. In baseball, he earned all-state honors as an outfielder.

All-State DB Peter Merrill (6-2, 175), a great leaper, is one of 3A's premier sprinters (ll.1,22.9). Two-way guard Victor Hershberger (6-2, 230), a first team all-stater, never leaves the field. Too bad for Lakeside fans he will soon leave the program - a la graduation. With Victor in the starting lineup, the Jackets are 20-2.

Although senior Russ Jones (6-2, 195) earned all-league honors at LB, he's the starting QB. "He could hold all our passing records after this year," predicts Moro.

Linebacker Colby Paquette (6-1, 180) had over 100 tackles. Although small, senior Frank Girardi (5-8, 165) is a tough safety and two-time state wrestling champion. Stocky Josh Fousel (5-8, 180) might be one of the three best centers in northern Arizona. Junior Toby Claude (6-2, 185) started as a sophomore at defensive end. Young Fred Johnson (6-6, 195) was the only freshman to ever start for Moro's varsity.

Last year's near perfect (10-1) club dropped a heartbreaking 27-26 playoff game to rival Show Low. Including those listed above, 10 additional underclassmen dotted the Jackets' roster: Steve Owens, Si Tanton, Dan Arellano, David

Ponwith, Ray Vozza, Greg Salyers, Mike Parisi, Sal Torres, Dustin Wibley and Adam Reeck. These players, plus an incoming 9-0 junior varsity class, give the 'Jackets' depth.

SNOWFLAKE

Last fall this school made history. A small, elite group of schools have won three straight titles - not very many - and Snowflake is now one of them.

First year coach Neil Westover took over for Jim Beall and didn't skip a beat. His Lobos, 11-2 on the year, got hot in the playoffs and blitzed Show Low in the finals, 30-7. Only a 91 yard TD reception by the enemy's all-state end Josh Ries prevented a shutout. Snowflake lost two tough games, to league champ Blue Ridge (14-12), and 2A state champ St. Johns (12-7).

Like bitter rival Blue Ridge, the Lobos' record since 1987 has been awesome: 11-2, 10-2, 3-6 (oops!), 10-2, 11-1-1, 10-3, 11-2, including four state championships. Altogether, Snowflake has won six state crowns since 1982, eight since 1955.

"It was a dream come true for all of us," says Westover. "Three state championships in a row is hard to imagine. We reached our ultimate goal."

In 1994, since only one starter returns on offense and two on defense, this could be Snowflake's down year. Three key returning players must stay healthy: FB/LB Jace Green (5-10, 190), TB/DB Cameron LaDuke (5-9, 175) and junior TB/DB Mack Peterson (6-0, 155). Peterson runs 100 meters in 11.1 seconds. Green recorded 40 unassisted tackles. LaDuke was in on 48 tackles, six pass interceptions.

Brandt Adams or Matt Larson will be the field general. Adams can also play tight end. Aaron Langston and Stewart Smith are capable receivers, to say the least. Smith, as a soph, was the state 400 meter champ (50.94), and joined teammate Mack Peterson to help the Lobos win both sprint relays at the state 3A track meet. Although not very big, Drew McDowell, Brandon Flake and Justin Flake will anchor the line. Place kicker Joe Caldwell booted a school-record 48 extra points.

Monty Caldwell, Daniel Lacapa, Wayne Sides, Billy Irvin, Gary Kirkman, Pat Smith, Kayle McCleve, Steve Wiltbank and Jarom Brimhall are other potential starters.

PAYSON

If the injury bug flies away, it should be better at Payson, where the Longhorns went 4-4-1. Third year coach Dan Dunn lost three key seniors early, and had a tough finish, facing Miami, Blue Ridge, Show Low and Snowflake.

"But three teams we did beat went to the state playoffs," says Dunn. "We'd like to go to that tournament. Like real soon."

The 'Horns have two of the premier players in the 3A East: All-state TE Jon Gunzel (6-4, 230), who doubles at linebacker, and kicker Mike Howe (6-1, 230), who plays tackle and nose guard. Gunzel, a state discus champ (156-4), is a real physical specimen, and one of the state's premier recruits. Howe, in the last two years, has kicked 13 field goals and averaged over 40 yards per punt.

Not to be overlooked is two-way lineman Brent Calkins (6-2, 202) and two-way back Byron Quinlan (5-9, 155). Dan Dunn (6-3, 170), the coach's son, will start at QB. He also plays safety. Kody Kelton (6-1, 195) will start at center on offense, end on defense. Jason Nichols (6-1, 192) sometimes went both ways. Big Joe Proulx (6-4, 215) and little Donavan Waterman (5-9, 160) will start. Both are juniors.

WINSLOW

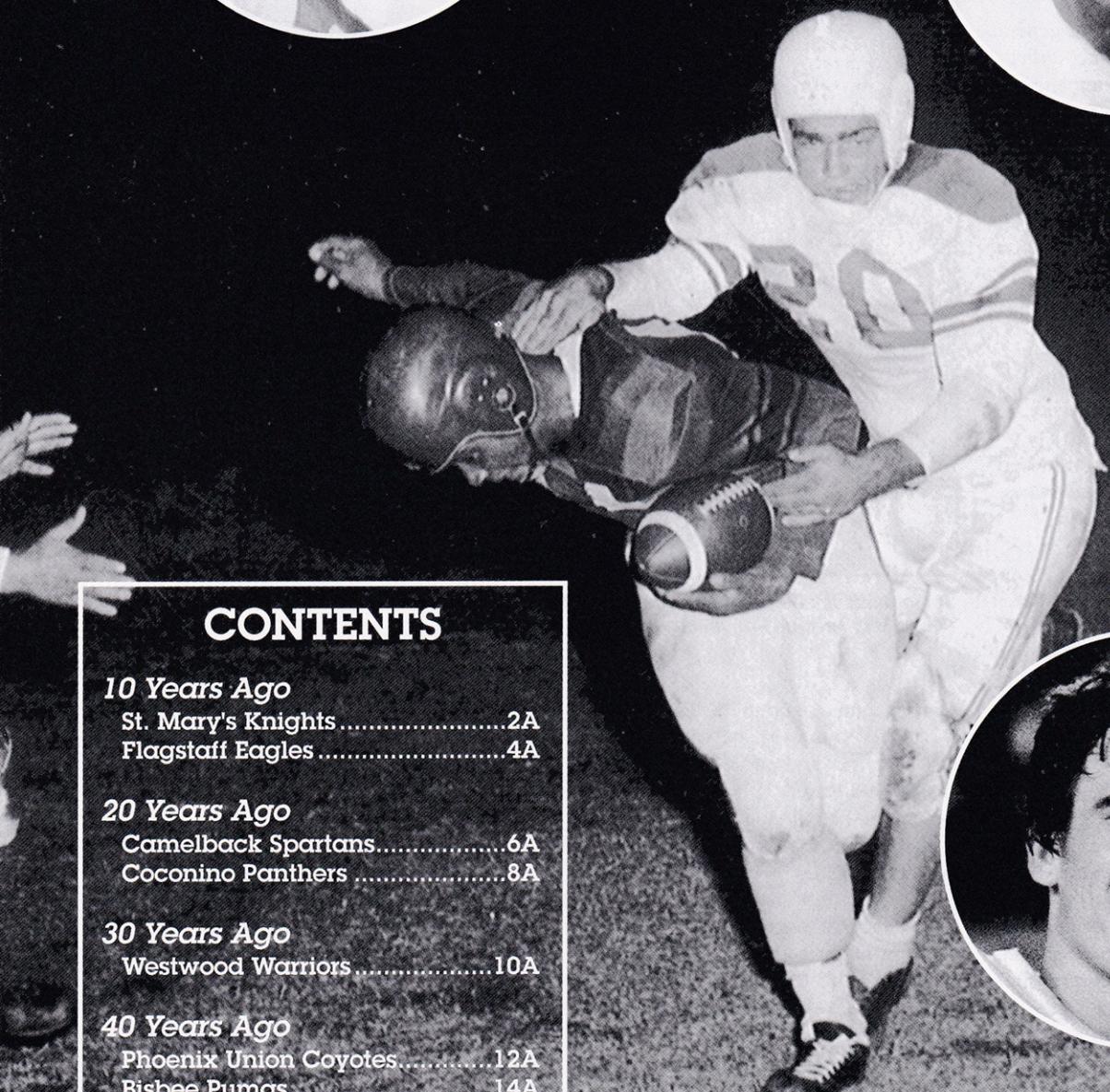
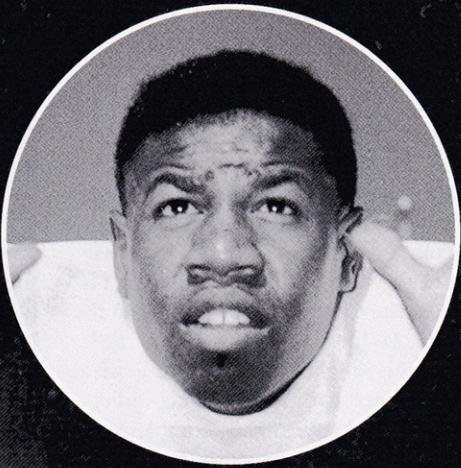
If any school in northern Arizona has two better linebackers than Winslow, your school doesn't want to face them. With Tim Coffey (6-1, 200) and Adam Larsen (6-2, 200) in the lineup, Coach Rich Hoyt has the making of a top-notch defensive unit.

Both earned all-state recognition. Both run 40 yards in 4.8 seconds. They also play offense, Coffey at tackle, Larsen at tight end.

"We turned things around last year," claims Hoyt, after the Bulldogs won five games for the first time since 1989. "All levels of football, down through the eighth grade, had winning seasons. We missed the playoffs by a field goal, and a 7-2 record by six points."

Sixteen lettermen return, led by Coffey and Larsen. Still, the program has less depth than rivals like Snowflake and Blue Ridge, and must rely on juniors. One is QB Jon Cook (5-11, 175), who doubles at safety. Flanker Andrew Scott (5-7, 150) is small but fast (4.6). He's also a junior. Sophomore Jason Kislingbury (6-1, 195) will probably start at fullback. Defensively, ends Richard Stock (6-1,

Yesterday's Heroes



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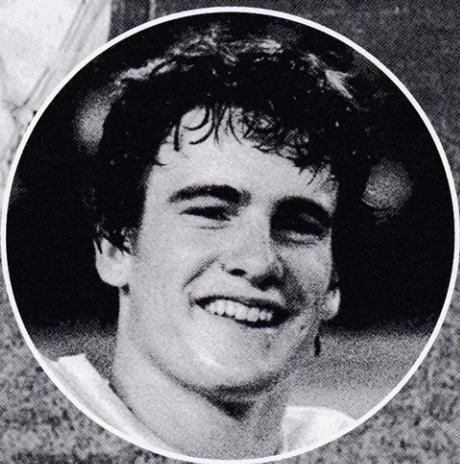
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10 YEARS AGO (1984)

A Knight to Remember

Quarterback Steve Belles was all smiles on December 7, 1984. He wasn't alone. It was another historic night for St. Mary's proud football tradition. The offense came alive in the second half and buried Tucson Sahuaro, 31-14 at Arizona Stadium in Tucson.

A crowd of 12,500 watched the Knights win their first state football crown since 1968. The state champs finished 12-2, while Sahuaro, the second seed from the AAA South, ended 9-5. St. Mary's lost their opener to top-rated Tempe McClintock 14-9, but beat the Chargers in a rematch in the semifinals, 24-7.

Belles, the Knights' all-state field general who later signed with Notre Dame, didn't have one of his better nights, completing seven of 15 passes for 88 yards. But his teammates on defense picked off a title game record five passes, returning one for a score. Rohber Bradford intercepted three.

St. Mary's, which won its sixth state championship, scored from everywhere on the field. Junior halfback Derryl Harris dashed 57 yards for a touchdown, junior Mike Cortright kicked a 33-yard field goal, Rohber Bradford returned a pass interception 40 yards, and junior Reggie McGill caught two scoring strikes from Belles.

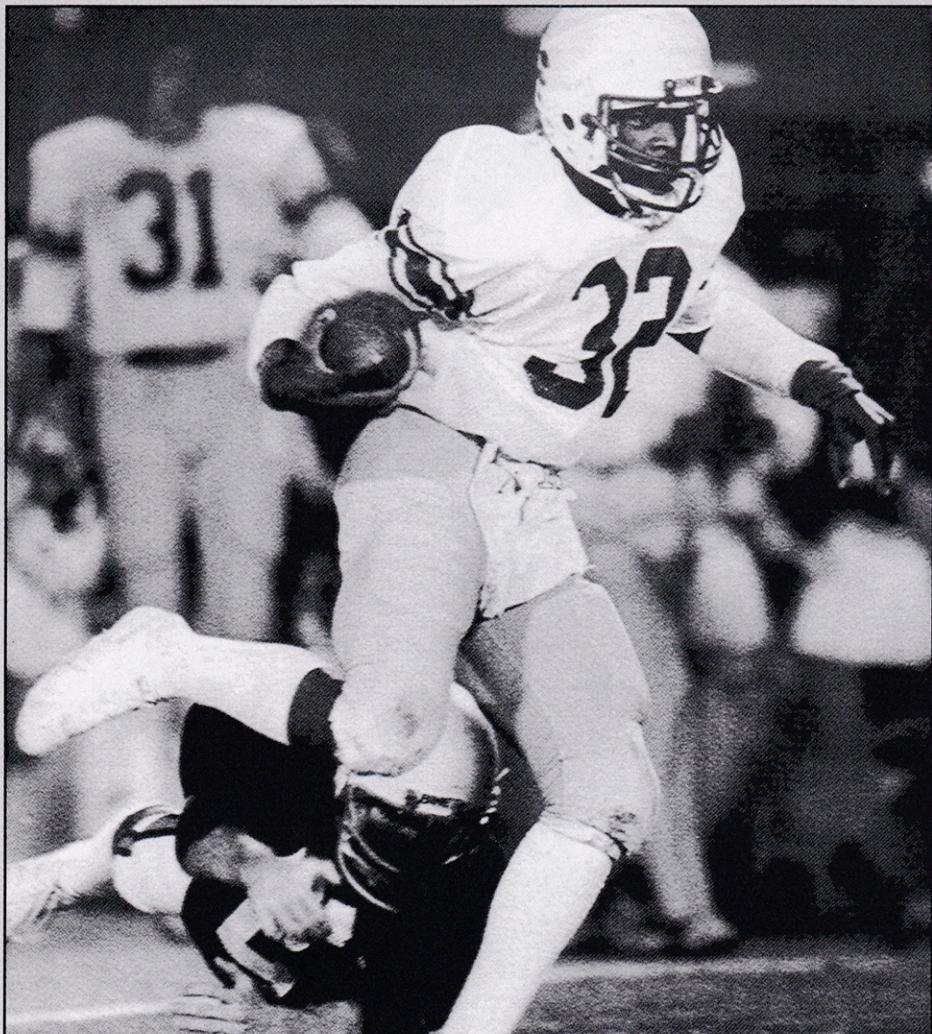
On the season, Belles passed for a school record 2,233 yards. Cortright kicked a record 11 field goals and 45 extra points. The Knights' secondary intercepted a school-record 28 enemy passes.

"We won it on defense, no doubt about it," said Pat Farrell, the Knights' head coach since 1978. "The kids weren't really sharp on offense, but they did the job when they had to on defense."

Farrell knew a little about defense. In 1968, as a senior at St. Mary's, he intercepted nine passes for a state championship team coached by Ed Doherty. When Doherty stepped down after the 1970 campaign, Farrell soon became an assistant under Pat Lavin. He landed the head job in 1978.

Against Sahuaro, the biggest defensive play of the night came with 45 seconds left in the first half, and St. Mary's leading 10-0. The Cougars had driven to the Knights' 4-yard line. Three running plays moved the ball to within inches of the goal, where Sahuaro faced a fourth-and-goal situation.

Fullback Ronnie Pearce, a 6-3, 230-pounder, tried to bull up the middle, but was met behind the goal by linebacker



*Junior halfback Derryl Harris scores St. Mary's first touchdown against Tucson Sahuaro.
(Ken Akers/Arizona Republic)*

Hans Laughner, and the Knights escaped to the locker room with a 10-point lead.

"That was the bottom-line key right there," said Farrell. "If they score right before the half, they go into a juiced-up locker room, and they come out in the second half fired up."

It was a great state championship goal-line stand, not just in terms of points, but in terms of momentum. Sahuaro head coach Howard Breinig, once a starting guard at the University of Arizona, agreed. "I think we would have done a lot better if we had gotten it in," he said. "We just killed ourselves with mistakes. They're a fine team, especially defensively."

St. Mary's was able to control Sahuaro's so-called "Black Offense," a shotgun forma-

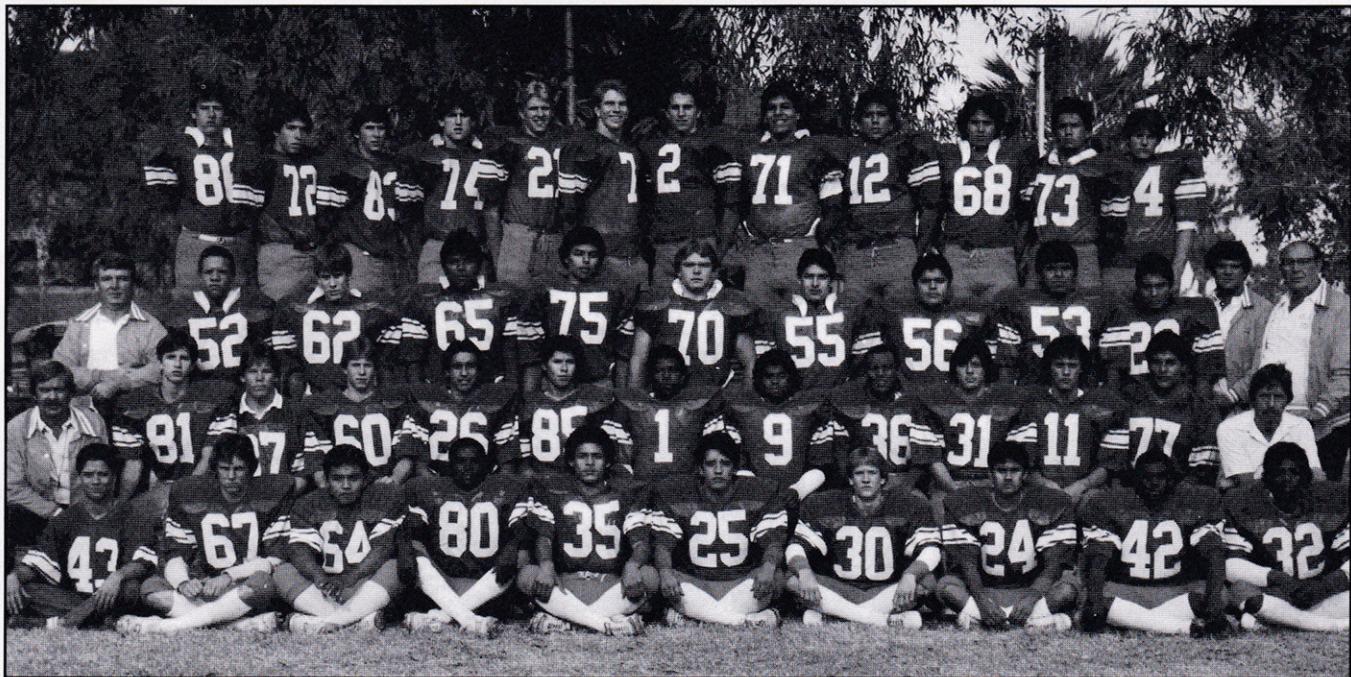
tion with no running backs, until the fourth quarter. The Cougars rallied behind the passing of Brad Chilcote and the receiving of Steve Martin, scoring twice after St. Mary's took a 31-0 lead.

Chilcote threw 40 times, completing 18 for 282 yards and one score. All-state receiver Martin was dazzling in defeat. An all-state outfielder in baseball who later started in both sports at Arizona State, he caught 12 passes for 224 yards, splitting two defenders in the end zone for a 32-yard score. Moments later, he dove for a 30-yard catch at the 1-yard line, setting up Sahuaro's other score.

"That was one of the best catches I've ever seen," added Farrell.

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10 YEARS AGO (1984)

Flagstaff's Record Run

Sometimes, one big play makes a difference. For the Flagstaff Eagles, one big play put them in the record book. For runnerup Peoria, it was heartbreak hotel.

Flagstaff survived a bizarre fourth quarter, then capped the night with a wild post-game victory celebration, after edging Peoria 7-0 in the 1984 Class 4A championship game.

Players hoisted head coach Rick Smith onto their shoulders, then joined fans in celebrating the Eagles' fourth consecutive state title. Since the A.I.A. adopted the present playoff format in 1959, no school in Arizona had won four straight football crowns.

Flagstaff scored the game's only touchdown in the second quarter, when wingback Ty Van Dyke took a pitchout from quarterback Bert Gough, stopped, and threw a 47-yard touchdown strike to Brian Zanzucchi.

"I thought the only thing we could do to loosen up their defense would be a trick play," said Smith, who would step down after compiling an .881 winning percentage. With Smith in charge, the Eagles went 11-1, 12-0-1, 9-3, 11-1 and 9-2-1 with the win over Peoria.

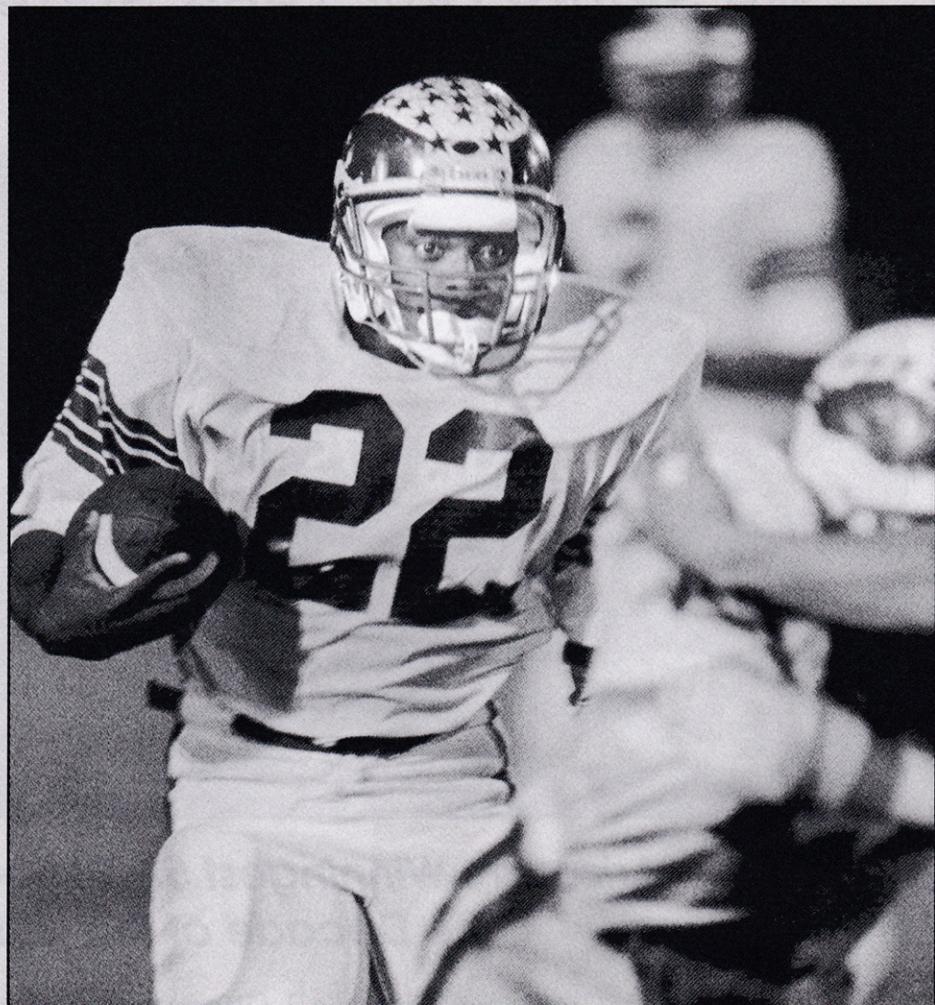
The player who got the most handshakes was senior defensive back Kevin Gould. The Eagles were nursing a 7-0 lead when his interception at the Flag 10-yard line with 1:10 to play killed Peoria's hopes.

"This is disappointing," said Peoria head coach Mark Matheson. "I thought that screen pass was a good call, but evidently it wasn't. As far as their touchdown, Smith always has something up his sleeve, and it worked."

Junior halfback David Winsley, the state's leading rusher with 2,183 yards, gained 108 yards on 22 carries. The game should have matched two of the best backs in 4A ball, but Peoria's Marlo Cobos, who gained 265 yards in the semis against Coconino, missed the second half with a foot injury.

One week earlier, Winsley, the smallest player on the field at 5-feet-7, carried 27 times for 248 yards and two touchdowns (71 and 66 yards), as Flag upset top-ranked Gilbert 17-9. The win avenged a 24-13 loss to the Tigers four weeks earlier. In that game, Gilbert held Winsley to less than 100 yards for the first time that year.

Winsley had gotten the Eagles off on the right foot when he scored three times



Junior David Winsley, the state's leading rusher with 2,183 yards, gained 108 yards on 22 carries against Peoria. (Phoenix Gazette photo)

in the quarterfinals, a 31-7 win over Kingman. The two schools had tied 14-14 in September. Two weeks into the season, the three-time defending state champs were 1-1 on the field, having beaten Snowflake 35-8, then dropping a 14-3 contest to Prescott in the Walkup Skydome. In fact, Flag's loss to Gilbert was also at home in the Dome.

Tuba City then fell 49-6, and Kingman battled the Eagles to a tie when Winsley went out at half with a thigh injury. Mingus Union and Marana were 46-0 and 35-6 victims respectively, followed by the loss to Gilbert. Flag crushed Window Rock 40-8, setting up a key game with city rival Coconino.

One year earlier, 14,000 fans watched Coconino's Audie McKee pass for 354 yards and four touchdowns, as the

Panthers prevailed 27-25. The Eagles couldn't stop Coconino receiver Phillip Miller, who caught 10 passes for 230 yards and two scores. For the second year in a row, Flag would go on to win the state championship, without being champs of their own city.

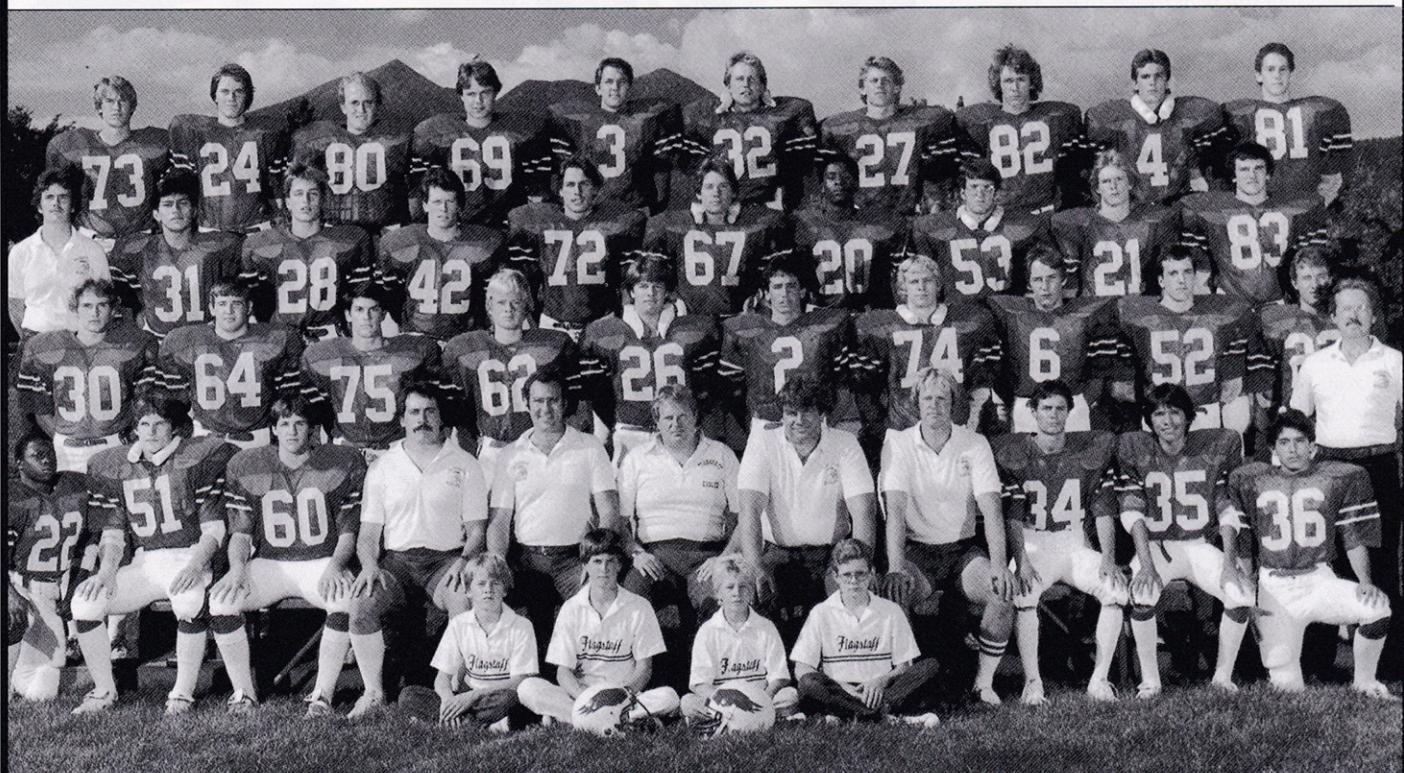
But in '84 the worm turned. Winsley rushed for 175 yards and the Eagles prevailed in the final regular season game, 21-3. However, both schools advanced, with Coconino falling to Gilbert in the semis; Flag going all the way.

Besides Winsley, the Eagles landed four players on the all-state football squad: Tight end Zanzucchi, one of the heroes of the state title game, guard Chris Quayle, defensive lineman Adam Holmes and linebacker Rob Greve.



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The 1984 State Champion Flagstaff Eagles!

THE EAGLES' RECORD RUN:

EAGLES 35, Snowflake 8
Prescott 14, EAGLES 3
EAGLES 49, Tuba City 6
EAGLES 14, Kingman 14
EAGLES 46, Mingus Union 0
EAGLES 35, Marana 6

Gilbert 24, FLAGSTAFF 13
EAGLES 40, Window Rock 8
EAGLES 21, Coconino 3
EAGLES 31, Kingman 7
EAGLES 17, Gilbert 9
EAGLES 7, Peoria 0

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20 YEARS AGO (1974)

Camelback Had the Touch

Magic Mark Whipple had the touch. So did the rest of the Camelback Spartans. Right down to the waterboy. Just ask Buena High from Sierra Vista, or Phoenix St. Mary's. Or any of the 12 victims on the Spartans' 1974 schedule.

In 1973, a young Camelback High squad, coached by a young Jesse Parker, advanced all the way to the Class AAA finals, only to lose 22-20 to Tucson Palo Verde. The game was played before 17,000 fans at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe.

Junior Mark Whipple, the Spartans' young signal caller, walked off the field dejected, but with a burning desire to come back. One year later he returned to the big stadium, but first in the state semi-finals, as part of a doubleheader on the same soil.

The two-game shootout drew 21,000 fans, then a prep football record for Arizona. First up was top-rated Tempe Marcos de Niza and Phoenix St. Mary's. The feisty Knights, led by junior halfback David Mitchell, upset the Padres 28-14, advancing to the finals.

In the later game, Camelback, with QB Whipple faking or handing to Randy Palmer, Rick Hancock or Roger Overton, had the Colts leaning the wrong way on every play, and the Spartans coasted to a 34-7 halftime lead. Buena, with terrific receiver Tyrone Peterson scoring twice, made it look closer than reality, 34-21 when the gun sounded.

The following week, on a wet field at A-State, 17,000 braved a damp night and watched a classic matchup, won by Camelback 22-20. It was the same score they had lost to Palo Verde by the year before.

The two Phoenix schools battled evenly, the only surprise being Camelback's accuracy through the air. The Spartans' ground strength made the pass unnecessary during the season, but against St. Mary's, Whipple was right on target, connecting on one TD strike and an important two-point conversion.

Camelback took the first lead when Whipple hit Mark DeGrow on a 17-yard touchdown play. However, Wally Zink's extra point missed. St. Mary's, coached by Pat Lavin, came right back as quarterback Chris Skelly scored from the one. Greg Gamez's PAT was good and the Knights led 7-6.



Randy Palmer eludes Buena defenders for a big Spartan gain in a big Spartan win - 34-21 over the Colts, before 21,000 fans at Sun Devil Stadium (Dave Rigg photo).

But the Spartans roared back, taking the lead on Jim Keller's short run, set up by Whipple's 22 yard scramble. His two-point strike to DeGrow followed. But St. Mary's struck quickly, as Kelly hit all-state end Speedy Hart for a score. Camelback came back again, with Overton scoring from the two. Then came a key play. Zink's extra point missed again, but St. Mary's was off-side. Overton then scored and Camelback led 22-14.

With little time remaining, St. Mary's went the length of the field, and Mitchell scored on a sweep. A two-point pass attempt failed, but Hart, just a junior, recovered an on-side kick at the Spartans' 49. However, the come-back failed seconds later when St. Mary's fumbled and Camelback ran out the clock.

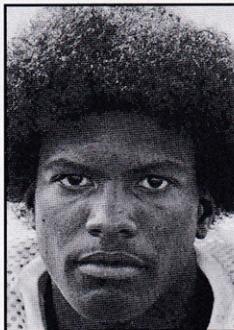
If was the Phoenix school's first state football crown in three previous tries. In 1964, the Spartans fell to Mesa Westwood 10-7 in the large school finals, and in 1967 were beaten by St. Mary's 20-14 in the semis.

For the young Parker, who was assisted by Bill Saunders, Ernie Hawkins, Gerry Clyne and Dale O'Dell, it concluded his sixth year at the Phoenix school. Prior to that he was a junior varsity coach at Phoenix Union under Saunders. Parker graduated from East Central State College in Oklahoma in 1963, with a degree in American History. He then became an assistant coach at Amarillo Caprock in Texas, and later attended Kansas University between 1967-68.

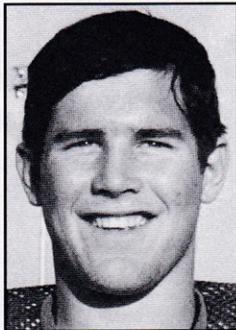
At the conclusion of the '74 campaign, Parker's won-loss record at Camelback was 42 wins, 23 losses, one tie. His teams won three league crowns. The win over St. Mary's gave his club a 12-0-1 record. They were tied by Maryvale, 20-20.

The popular Spartan coach would last one more season in the Phoenix Union School District, finishing 5-6 in 1975, before being hired to build the new program at Mountain View High School in Mesa.

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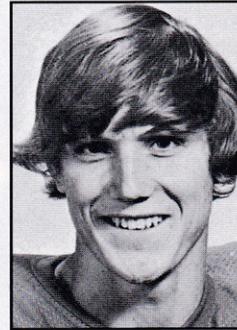
Rodney Peete
Sahuaro



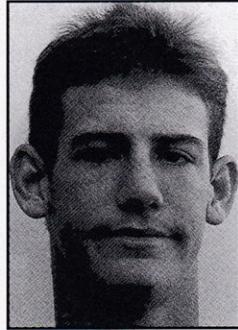
Mike Pagel
Washington



Fred Enke, Jr.
Tucson



Jim Krohn
Amphi



Jason Maas
Yuma

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL QUARTERBACK

1993 Jason Maas, Yuma
 1992 Jason Verdugo, Tucson Canyon del Oro
 1991 Anthony Sanders, Tucson Santa Rita
 1990 Grady Benton, Mesa
 1989 Aaron Santini, Tucson Santa Rita
 1988 Bret Powers, Glendale Cactus
 1987 John Bonds, Phoenix St. Mary's
 1986 Bobby Valdez, Tucson Sunnyside
 1985 Kent Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
 1984 Steve Belles, Phoenix St. Mary's
 1983 John Walker, Tempe Marcos de Niza
 1982 Rodney Peete, Tucson Sahuaro (jr)
 1981 Steve Stallworth, Yuma
 1980 Trent Hutchinson, South Mountain
 1979 Lloyd Coker, Phoenix Central
 1978 Kevin Smith, Scottsdale Saguaro (jr)
 1977 Mike Pagel, Phoenix Washington
 1976 Greg Brady, Scottsdale Coronado
 1975 Jim Krohn, Tucson Amphi
 1974 Mark Whipple, Phoenix Camelback
 1973 Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
 1972 Greg Hubbell, Phoenix Central
 1971 Fred Mortensen, Tempe
 1970 Fred Mortensen, Tempe (jr)
 1969 Danny White, Mesa Westwood
 1968 Bill Mannion, Phoenix St. Mary's
 1967 Ken Johnson, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
 1966 John Svob, Tucson Catalina
 1965 George Mattingly, Scottsdale Arcadia
 1964 Dave Grangaard, Phoenix Camelback

1963 Rusty Tillman, Agua Fria
 1962 Timmy Flood, Phoenix Brophy Prep
 1961 Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
 1960 Gary Deak, Scottsdale Arcadia
 1959 Eddie Bricker, Miami
 1958 John Power, Phoenix Camelback
 1957 Eddie Wilson, Chandler
 1956 Carlos Rodriguez, Morenci
 1955 Jim Wolf, Yuma
 1954 Ralph Hunsaker, Mesa
 1953 Clyde Nielson, North Phoenix (jr)
 1952 Pat Flood, Tucson
 1951 Vaughn Patterson, North Phoenix (jr)
 1950 James Black, Phoenix Union
 1949 Buster Madariaga, Round Valley
 1948 Don Ahee, Tucson
 1947 Dan Russell, Mesa
 1946 Gus Headington, Yuma
 1945 Manuel Aja, Glendale
 1944 Charles Beall, Mesa
 1943 Charles Beall, Mesa (jr)
 1942 Fred Enke, Jr., Tucson

FRED ENKE, JR., a three-sport star at Tucson High and the University of Arizona, was the first Arizona schoolboy to start at quarterback in the NFL. He played with Detroit (1948-51), Philadelphia (1952) and Baltimore (1953-54).

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20 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Panthers Go Back-To-Back

All season long, Douglas High School, coached by Ken Sawin, rode the wing of sophomore quarterback Tony Cortez Rose, and the legs of running backs Victor Melendez and Bobby Lewis. Young Rose, in 11 games, passed for 1,623 yards and 20 touchdowns, impressive stats for a sophomore.

But in the 1974 Class AA finals, youth took a back seat to experience. Standing in the Bulldogs way was defending state champ Flagstaff Coconino. The Panthers, experienced in championship play, also rode the strong arm of a sophomore quarterback, Marty McKee.

When the defending champs dropped a 7-6 midseason tussle to Winslow, head coach Bill Epperson brought up his young field general to run the offense. He performed like a vet. But his assignment was easy. All he had to do was hand the ball to tailback Ray Smith.

"Last year, Smith was primarily a running quarterback, anyway," said Epperson, who guided the Panthers to state crowns in both 1968 and 1973. "But he was able to run only a few basic plays from that position. With Ray at tailback we can run more plays, and besides, our new QB is a better passer."

It would be nearly impossible to find a back to match what Ray Smith did in only seven games. Starting with the finals, the 5-9, 170-pound senior set a state title game record by rushing for 243 yards, and Coconino won its second straight crown, 21-14. On the season, Smith totaled 2,002 yards rushing and passing, as the Black Cats finished 10-1. (In a losing effort in the finals, Rose hit 12 of 24 passes for 171 yards and one touchdown.)

"Smith was the whole show," said a dejected Sawin, after his 'Dogs were buried by Smith's yardage and a heartbreaking 83-yard run with a recovered fumble. (In 1968, Coconino won its first state crown when Rick Brenfleck ran 85 yards with a fumble in a 6-0 win over Flowing Wells.) "We couldn't stop him. But the fumble killed us. In big games, you try and keep fumbles to a minimum. Much less let somebody pick one up and go 85 the other way."

But Smith was not the whole show, and Coconino heroes were plenty. Receiver Rick DeCosmo, tackle Marvin Hatcher, and linebacker Blake Heap, to name a few, made life miserable for Panther foes for two years.

Prior to the playoffs, Coconino faced an



Tailback Ray Smith, switched from quarterback at midseason, rushed for a title game record 243 yards and two touchdowns.

early pressure-cooker in their annual battle with Flagstaff High. Close to 5,000 fans watched the heavily-favored Panthers use Smith's 208 yards rushing to break a 7-7 halftime deadlock. The Eagles finished 6-4 on the season. Coconino later became the first Flagstaff school to win 10 football games.

Epperson, as a high school player, played halfback on a 6-man football team at Valley Union High in Elfrida. After graduation in 1957, he enrolled at the University of Arizona and joined the frosh football team.

"That was quite a change," Epperson said years later. "Going from a Class C school which played 6-man ball to the University of Arizona's freshman team."

One year later he transferred to Northern Arizona University, where he started as a defensive back for Max Spilsbury. In 1967, he became the Panthers' first head coach, after spending five years as an assistant at Flagstaff High.

"At Coconino we emphasize defense," he said in '74. "As long as we have solid defensive units we figure to have a winning season."

Many all-state performers have walked the halls at CHS, but Epperson claims none had the all-round ability or competitive spirit of his talented tailback. "I have never worked with a youngster of Ray Smith's ability," declared the head coach. "No matter what his size, Ray was one of the finest high school athletes I've seen. Believe me, he could have played for anybody. He could have started in Camelback's backfield, East High's backcourt or Tucson Sahuaros' infield."

"Youngsters like him don't come along every year. Having athletes like him makes coaching worthwhile. There's room for the little guy in the world of sports. I hope he gets his chance."

He did. For two years he was a starting defensive back for the nearby Lumberjacks, intercepting six passes during a successful two-year varsity career. Today he is the head football coach at Kingman High.

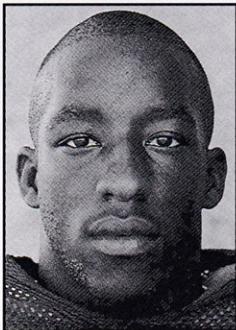
Epperson left Coconino five years after Smith, compiling an 85-40-1 career mark in 13 lucky seasons.

And three Class AA state championships.

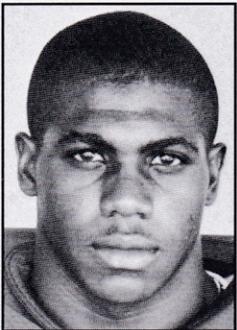
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Salutes the

WHIZZER WHITE AWARD WINNERS



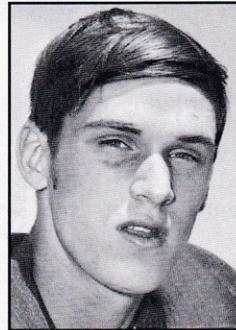
**Brian Drew
McClintock**



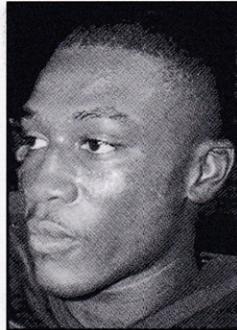
**Reggie McGill
St. Mary's**



**Whizzer White
Mesa High**



**Joe Petroshus
Tucson**



**Robert Holcombe
Mesa High**

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING BACK

1993 Robert Holcombe, Mesa
1992 Mike Mitchell, Phoenix Brophy Prep
1991 Chris Hopkins, Tucson Salpointe
1990 Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi
1989 Brian Drew, Tempe McClintock
1988 Michael Bates, Tucson Amphi
1987 Kevin Galbreath, Phoenix Maryvale
1986 Reggie McGill, Phoenix St. Mary's
1985 Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984 David Winsley, Flagstaff (jr)
1983 Paul Kasprzyk, Mesa Mountain View
1982 Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria
1981 Stan Gill, Flagstaff
1980 Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside
1979 Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1978 Mike Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1977 Alvin Moore, Coolidge
1976 Willard Reeves, Flagstaff Coconino
1975 Brian Felix, Phoenix Union
1974 David Mitchell, Phoenix St. Mary's (jr)
1973 Ronnie Bonner, Mesa Westwood (jr)
1972 Jesse Parker, Tucson Rincon
1971 Manuel Jones, Phoenix Union
1970 Don Washington, Agua Fria (jr)
1969 Benny Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz
1968 Joe Petroshus, Tucson
1967 Tim Smith, Phoenix St. Mary's
1966 Bob Soza, Mesa Westwood
1965 Art Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz

1964 LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963 James Dugan, Flagstaff
1962 Everett "Moose" Rollins, Scottsdale Arcadia
1961 Andy Livingston, Mesa
1960 Jim Sims, Tucson
1959 Bob Olson, South Mountain
1958 Lewis Albright, Scottsdale
1957 Clay Freney, Globe
1956 Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955 George Greathouse, Phoenix Union
1954 George Greathouse, Phoenix Union (jr)
1953 Kenny Aycock, North Phoenix
1952 Joel Favara, Tucson
1951 Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950 Don Beasley, Mesa
1949 Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's
1948 Gib Dawson, Douglas
1947 Marvin Wahlin, Casa Grande
1946 Whizzer White, Mesa
1945 Whizzer White, Mesa (jr)
1944 Lowell McDonald, Glendale
1943 Fred Batiste, Tucson

WHIZZER WHITE, a 1946 high school All-American, was a three sport star at both Mesa High and Arizona State University, and later played in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.

BROWN-O'HAVER, Loss Claims Representatives

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30 YEARS AGO (1964)

"Mutt" Ford's Last Hurrah!

Grinning from ear to ear, lean-jawed, 54-year-old Edgar "Mutt" Ford looked like a kid with a new toy, as he darted around the roaring Westwood dressing room.

"How does it feel to win your eighth state championship?" asked Verne Boatner of *The Arizona Republic*.

"Every one is more of a thrill than the last," answered Ford. "Our whole defense needs a pat on the back. It played like pros down on the goal line. And it had to. Camelback's the best overall team we've met."

The locker room was in Tempe, where young Mesa Westwood, with their first senior class, had just beaten Phoenix Camelback 10-7, at Arizona State's Sun Devil Stadium.

The victory, played before 18,000 spectators, was the 13th straight for Westwood (12-0). Camelback had a 16-game winning string scissored.

"Hey coach, how about that?" shouted guard Rudy Santa Cruz, whose first field goal of the season was the difference.

"We didn't play our best on offense, but they've got a tough defense, too," praised Warrior quarterback David Cummard.

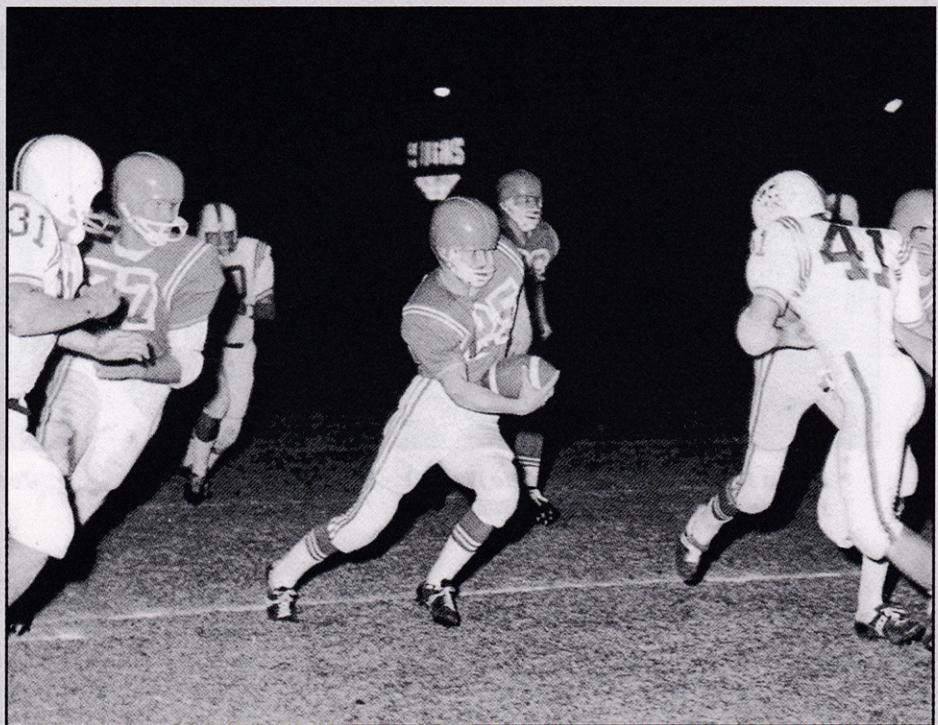
Ron Hendrix, Camelback's All-American linebacker who later signed with ASU, drew praise from the state champs. "I think Hendrix and the rest hit me twice as hard as anybody we've played," sighed Ric Watson, one of Westwood's ace backs. "They have a great ball team."

Frustration etched deeply into the face of Don Baker, the crew-cut, boyish-looking Spartan coach who later became an assistant at ASU under Frank Kush. He watched a penalty wipe out one touchdown and a later Camelback drive stopped six inches from the goal line.

"We should have beaten them - we should have beaten them," he muttered. "But they were tough when they had to be. They had a good ball club down on the goal line ... but we still should have beaten them."

The win climaxed a meteoric rise to athletic prominence for Westwood, in only its second year of varsity ball, and gave their legendary head coach another championship crown. Ford previously won one state title at Glendale and six at Mesa.

Santa Cruz came in with :38 left in the first period to boot a 23-yard field goal. His three-pointer, which gave Westwood a 10-0 lead, was set up by one of four pass interceptions thrown by Camelback quarterback



During a 20-13 win, senior Bill Bailey, one of Westwood's ace backs, cuts back against Scottsdale Arcadia for a 35-yard touchdown run.

Dave Grangaard.

The Warriors advanced to the finals with an impressive 20-0 shutout of unbeaten Tucson Salpointe, played before 12,000 fans in Tucson. Two-way tackle Richard Griffin, also a prep All-American, and his Warrior teammates held Herbie Jones, the Lancers' bruising all-state fullback, to 49 yards on 15 carries. Jones was the state's top scorer during regular season play. During the game Westwood lost fullback Jim Boubelik to a broken leg.

With backs Watson and Bill Bailey showing the way, Westwood started strong, beating tough Scottsdale High 14-0 in the season opener. It would be Scottsdale's only loss. Eight weeks into the season, Ford's boys were unbeaten and ready to face Mesa, his old school. The Warriors prevailed 14-7, springing Boubelik loose for both touchdowns, played before a packed house at old Jackrabbit Stadium, near downtown Mesa.

One week later, Westwood survived a 20-13 thriller with Scottsdale Arcadia, thanks to a 73-yard scoring dash by Bailey. The Warriors closed out the regular season with a 21-0 win over Phoenix Maryvale.

Although Ford would coach two more years in the system, his '64 club was his

last championship squad. Dave Gates and Roger Hightower were his assistants. Ironically, it was Ford's first unbeaten team since 1943, when his last Glendale squad finished 8-0 during a war-shortened schedule. He never coached an unbeaten, untied team at Mesa High.

His last game was a real thriller. In 1966, the Warriors fell to Tucson High, 14-7 in the state finals, also played at Sun Devil Stadium. He never coached in the system again, and died April 11, 1975, at home in Mesa after a long illness.

With head coaching stints at Peoria, Coolidge, Glendale, Mesa and Westwood, Ford won 227 games, lost 64 and tied 17. He was the 1960 National Coach of the Year. As time marches on and more coaches surpass his records, one thing can never be taken away from him - an incredible record against Texas and California schools.

Ford was 10-0 against California powerhouses, including a surprising 40-13 win over Southern CIF champ Compton Centennial in 1954. Between 1945-49, his Mesa High teams were 6-3-1 against Texas schools, all from El Paso.

MESA CITY

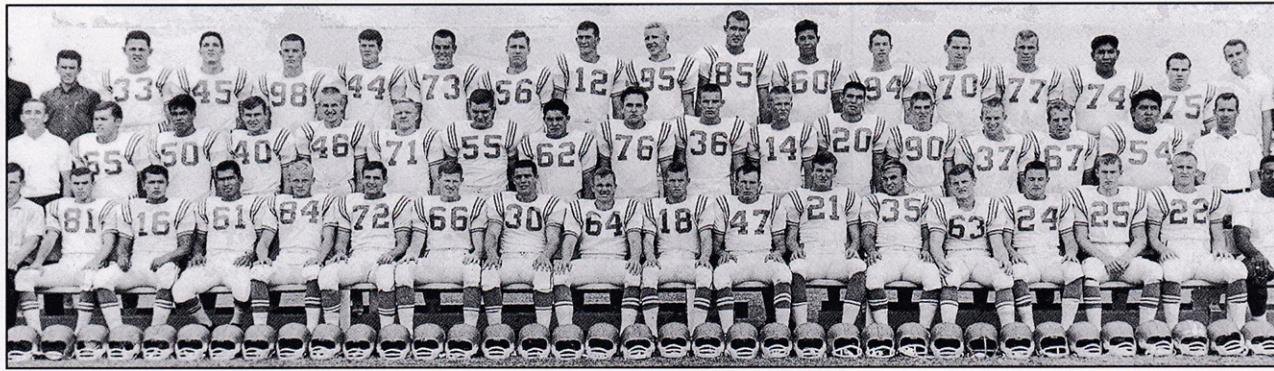
HALL OF FAME

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NEWSPAPERS



S • A • L • U • T • E



1964 **WESTWOOD HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM** 1964

Thirty years ago Coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford's Warriors went undefeated. This fall the Mesa City Sports Hall of Fame will pay tribute to the team, its members and accomplishments. In addition to the tribute to the '64 team, many Mesa athletes will be inducted in the Hall of Fame. The banquet is open to the public. If you'd like information about attendance, please call for details, 898-5665, ext. 1480.

40 YEARS AGO (1954)

Phoenix Union's Golden Year

Once it was the largest high school in the West. Located in the city's core, with 15,000-seat Montgomery Stadium located next door, the Coyotes drew larger crowds to sporting events than Arizona State University.

Between 1895, when the doors opened, and 1981, when they closed, few high schools in the western United States matched Phoenix Union's record.

The Coyotes, with an enrollment as high as 6,320 students in 1963, won over 100 state championships in team sports. Exactly 25 in football. Historically, their 1930 club was its best. They finished 12-0 and beat teams from five different states, including Colorado powerhouse Fort Collins in a post season game in Phoenix. The National Sports News Service in Minneapolis rated that Coyote squad best in the nation.

But in 1954, several major events took place. The Phoenix Union High School District integrated its system, closed Carver High, and moved all its students to Phoenix Union. The Coyotes' enrollment went from 3,656 to 3,973. One year later Tech High closed and Phoenix had 5,819 students on its biggest campus.

The school became a national power in sports overnight. But one of the school's great accomplishments was thrust into the background. Its splendid example of interracial unity.

Unlike the 1957 nightmare at Central High in Little Rock, Arkansas, which led to President Eisenhower sending in federal troops to keep the peace, the merger of all-black Carver High with Union was a success. Along with the merger came an incredible collection of talented athletes - like George Greathouse.

The task was undertaken by head coach Sam Winingham, whose opening game in '54 was the first public display of how the merger worked. It worked fine. A 41-7 win over Yuma, sparked by a punt return by Greathouse, started a two-year glory trail in which Union won back-to-back football crowns.

One week later, Greathouse scored three times, Vic Sanchez and Sylvester Mabry once, and all-state guard Al Carr was a terror on the line, as the Coyotes' crushed rival St. Mary's 37-13, before 8,000 fans at Montgomery Stadium. Carr was a fearless competitor with great quickness.

"It was a great lesson in life for all of us



Against Tucson Amphitheater, junior George Greathouse rushed for 177 yards and scored three touchdowns, one an 85-yarder, during a 34-8 win.

involved," Carr said later. "We battled each other to make the teams, joked together and became friends. I felt the coaches' decisions were always fair."

Greathouse scored the lone touchdown in the only blemish on the Coyotes' schedule, a 7-7 tie with Redlands, California. Two weeks later in Bakersfield, against one of California's most historic football programs, George scored three times (again), Moe Watson dashed 80 yards, and Don Rhinehard tossed a TD strike to Sherman Gile as Phoenix drilled Bakersfield's famed Drillers, 33-14.

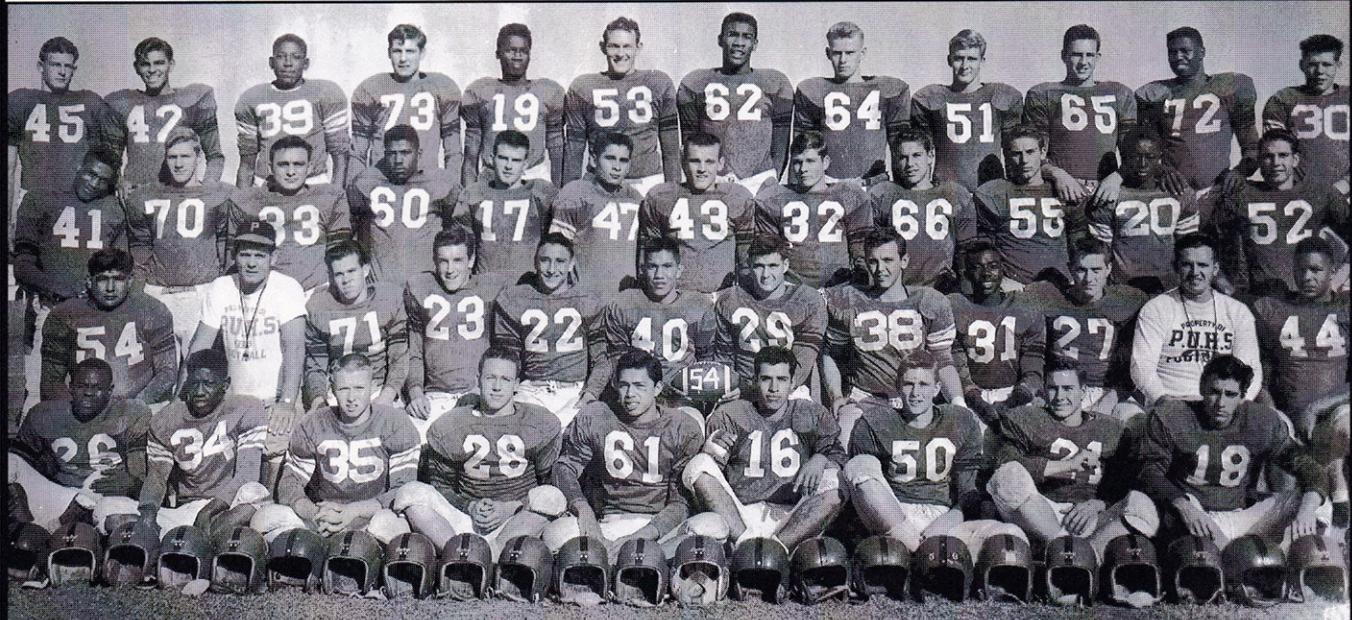
In the last meeting between the two schools, Phoenix Tech fell 33-0; Tucson was crushed 34-7, returning the historic Francis Siegel Memorial Trophy to the Coyotes' den; then Mesa fell 13-7 in a defensive battle, played before 11,000 fans in Phoenix on a Thursday night. Union's defense was superb in stopping the Jackrabbits' all-state duo of quarterback

Ralph Hunsaker and tailback Warren Livingston. It was that Mesa squad, coached by Edgar "Mutt" Ford, which blitzed eventual Southern California champ Compton Centennial, 40-13.

After a 36-13 win over West High, followed by a 34-8 victory over Tucson Amphi, the stage was set for the annual Thanksgiving Day clash with North. An afternoon crowd of 13,500 watched Greathouse score once, and throw a TD strike to Ken Ramsey, for a 14-7 Coyote win.

The Coyotes finished with a 9-0-1 record. Greathouse, only a junior, scored 22 touchdowns and earned All-America honors. Teammates Sanchez and Carr joined him on the all-state team. In Minneapolis, the National Sports News Service ranked Phoenix Union No. 7 in its U.S.A. prep poll. No. 1 went to Vallejo, California, with its All-America tailback Dick Bass.

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40 YEARS AGO (1954)

Bisbee's Race For The Pick

To Stop in Bisbee is to stop in time. Located in the Mule Mountains of southeastern Arizona, Bisbee has maintained an Old World charm, seldom found anywhere in the West.

The town is full of Old West history and copper mining lore. Old miners' boarding houses have been refurbished into eating establishments. Former saloons are now quaint shops, antique stores or art galleries. The Queen Mine Tour, a trip down into the town's historic copper mine, reveals one of the nation's largest inactive mines. Then there's the Lavender Pit Open Mine, also one of the nation's largest.

World famous Brewery Gulch, which in its heyday boasted upwards of 47 saloons and was considered the "liveliest spot between El Paso and San Francisco," is a popular visitor stop.

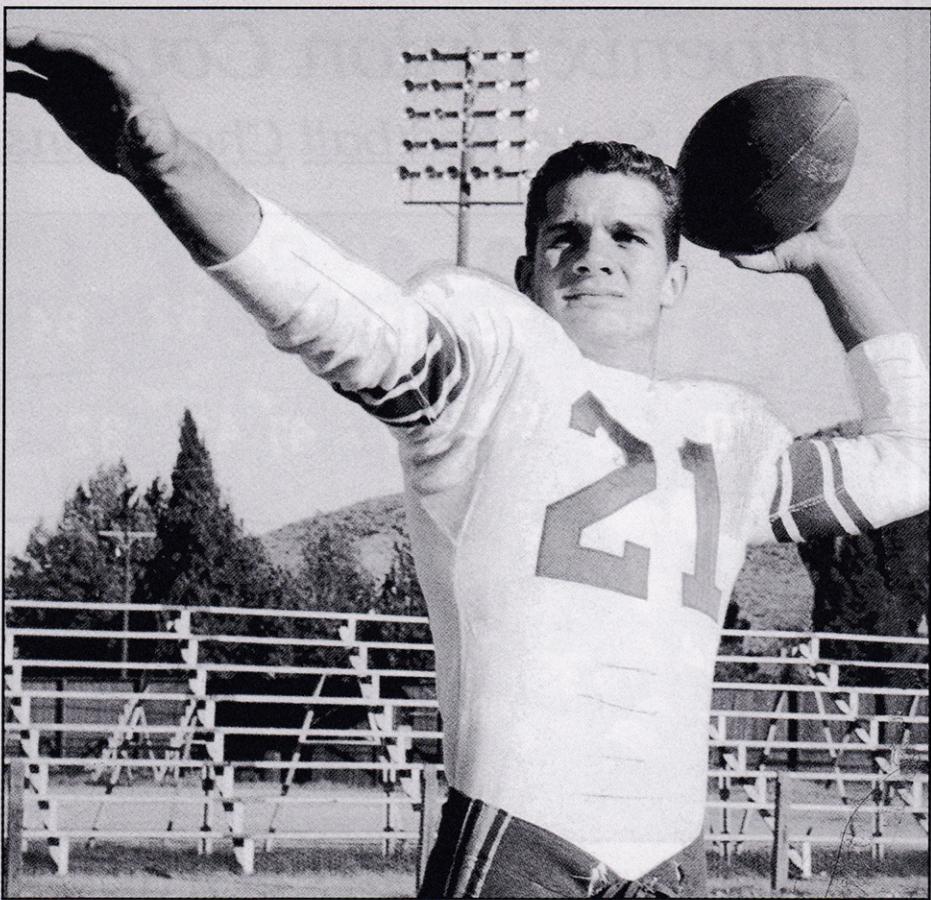
But for years, another popular stop was Warren Stadium, home field for the local high school, the Bisbee Pumas. When Brewery Gulch was rockin' Warren was roarin'. Especially on Friday nights. Especially on Thanksgiving Day, when the Pumas clashed with bitter rival Douglas. Especially when the Pumas were strong in football. Especially in 1954, when Bisbee ruled football in southern Arizona.

Led by junior quarterback Teddy Sorich, and coached by legendary Max Spilsbury, the Pumas started their record run on Sept. 17, with a stunning 12-6 upset of state power Tucson High, played at Warren. Tucson, a Class AA school with 5,765 students, was stopped in its tracks by the feisty Class A school.

The slick ball handling and passing of Sorich, and the tough running of Brian Phillips and David Ruiz, spelled doom for the Badgers, one of the nation's premier football schools. One week later in Tucson, Spilsbury's crew suffered its only blemish, a scoreless tie with Amphitheater in the rain. The Pumas would not lose a football game until 1956.

Two weeks later in Casa Grande, a stout defensive effort stopped the Cougars' all-state back Junior Tate in his tracks. The All-America long jumper and sprinter would not finish the game. Bisbee finished off the Cougars 26-6.

Back at Warren, Sorich's two touch-down passes sparked a 34-0 rout of Tucson Salpointe, the big city's newest school. In a surprising 46-6 rout of Flagstaff, Sorich threw only three passes, but two went for touchdowns, one a 70-yard pass to Ruiz. Nate Hickman scored three times as the



With historic Warren Field in the background, junior quarterback Teddy Sorich cranks up his arm as the Pumas prepare for Douglas.

Pumas rushed for 409 yards.

Sorich used his toe to help kick Safford, booting five extra points, scoring once himself, and throwing a TD strike to Charles Lugo, as the 'Dogs collapsed at home, 41-7. During a 46-14 win over Ajo, the Pumas scored from everywhere on the field, including fumble recoveries of 68 yards by Eddie Verdugo and 15 yards by Lugo.

The Big Red Machine was in true form in Morenci. Luis Reyna went 36 yards with a blocked punt. Ruiz scored on a 46-yard pass interception and a 35-yard fumble return as Bisbee prevailed 59-0.

Then came the annual clash with Douglas. The game for the Copper Pick. On November 25, Thanksgiving Day, it became "Ted Sorich Day" in Douglas.

The junior field general completed six of eight passes for 139 yards and two touchdowns, including a 66-yarder to Bruce McDonald. He scored the Pumas' first two touchdowns on short runs from scrimmage, and added one extra point. It

was the 88th meeting between the two schools. Exactly 6,200 fans watched a 25-7 Puma rout, giving Bisbee a 9-0-1 record and the No. 1 ranking in the final Associated Press Class A football poll.

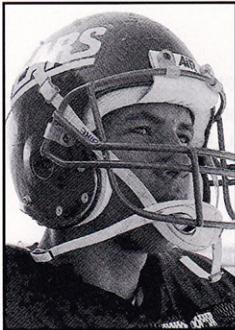
"It was a real special group," said Spilsbury, who later would become a successful head coach at Northern Arizona University. "We knew we had something special when we beat Tucson."

Young backs like Sorich were nothing new to Bisbee fans. During its once proud athletic heritage, legendary Puma backs like Johnny Salmon, Mike Shafer, "King" Beeth, Tommy Hargis, Garner Barnett, Johnny Graham, "Dixie" Redding, Bill Penn and Hadley Hicks ran roughshod through Warren Field. Many, like Sorich, became college stars.

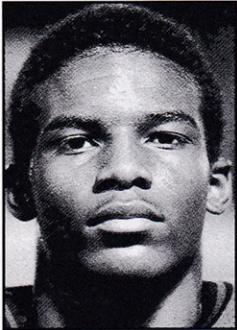
But the '54 Pumas became a special lot, posting the school's best record since 1941, when Waldo Dicus' once beaten club landed the Class B state championship.

STOP, THIEF!

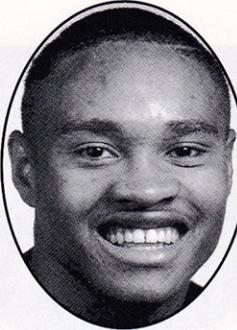
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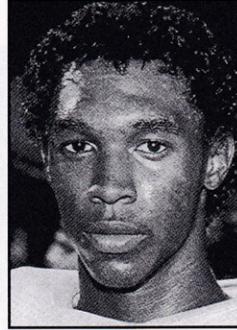
James Richardson
Bradshaw Mtn.



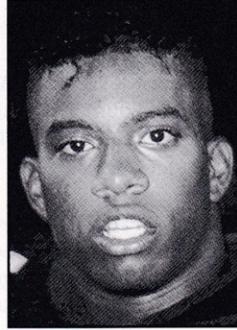
Anthony Parker
McClintock



Tyrone Byrd
Chandler



Billy Burris
Florence



Corey Hill
Tucson Sabino

HONORING THE STATE'S BEST DEFENSIVE BACK

1993..... Corey Hill, Tucson Sabino
1992..... Mitchell Freedman, Phoenix Maryvale
1991..... James Richardson, Bradshaw Mountain (jr)
1990..... Eddie Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1989..... Billy Burris, Florence
1988..... Mike Salmon, Phoenix Greenway
1987..... Tyrone Byrd, Chandler
1986..... Nathan LaDuke, Phoenix Alhambra
1985..... Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984..... John Giaspie, Phoenix Central
1983..... Anthony Parker, Tempe McClintock
1982..... Chuck Nixon, Phoenix Shadow Mountain
1981..... Shawn Benson, Mesa Mountain View
1980..... George Duarte, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1979..... Mossy Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1978..... Jeff Colter, Tucson Amphitheater
1977..... Charles Cobbs, Florence
1976..... Felix Kelson, South Mountain
1975..... David Given, Tempe McClintock
1974..... Harold Smith, Florence
1973..... Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
1972..... Carl Russell, McNary
1971..... Danny Smith, Safford (jr)
1970..... Derral Davis, Tucson
1969..... Dick Harris, Mesa Westwood (jr)
1968..... Joe Petroshus, Tucson

1967..... Rudy Quihuis, Tucson Pueblo
1966..... Bill Dimpley, Scottsdale Arcadia
1965..... Bill Dimpley, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1964..... LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963..... Earliest Nelson, South Mountain
1962..... James Dugan, Flagstaff (jr)
1961..... Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
1960..... Luther Harper, Phoenix Union
1959..... Jim Sims, Tucson (jr)
1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain
1957..... Steve Vaughn, Phoenix North
1956..... Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955..... Warren Livingston, Mesa (jr)
1954..... Eddie Mitchell, Phoenix North
1953..... Charles Christopher, Phoenix Carver
1952..... Joel Favara, Tucson
1951..... Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950..... Gene Mitcham, Phoenix North
1949..... Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's

TYRONE BYRD, a three-sport star at Chandler High School between 1985-87, was a star defensive back at the U. of Nebraska and a projected high NFL draft pick whose career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.

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.....South Mountain	
1992	FREDDIE DODSON
.....Chandler	
1991	STEVE BUSH
.....Paradise Valley	
1990	JASON BIRDSONG
.....Glendale Cactus	
1989	JASON BIRDSONG
.....Glendale Cactus (jr)	
1988	ERIC DRAGE
.....Tucson Santa Rita	
1987	ORLANDO MCKAY
.....Mesa	
1986	ERIC GULIFORD
.....Peoria (jr)	
1985	STEVE MARTIN
.....Tucson Sahuaro	
1984	TODD YOUNG
.....Tempe Marcos de Niza	
1983	VINCE MASTERS
.....Coolidge (jr)	
1982	RANDALL McDANIEL
.....Avondale Agua Fria	
1981	GLENN DENNARD
.....Tempe Corona del Sol	
1980	SKIP PEETE
.....Tucson Sahuaro	
1979	JAY DOBYNS
.....Tucson Sahuaro	
1978	JUNIOR SOLOMON
.....Coolidge	
1977	CHARLES COBBS
.....Florence	
1976	JOHN MISTLER
.....Tucson Sahuaro	
1975	RON WASHINGTON
.....Tempe McClintock	
1974	SPEEDY HART
.....Phoenix St. Mary's	
1973	PRESTON DENNARD
.....Tempe Marcos de Niza	
1972	DON WOODS
.....Mesa	



Chandler's Freddie Dodson and Red Mountain's James Fischer leap for a pass in 1992 East Valley game.

1971	WILLIE SCROGGINS
.....Safford	
1970	DARION GILBERT
.....Phoenix Union	
1969	LARRY SHORTY
.....Eloy Santa Cruz	
1968	ED WEATHERSPOON
.....Globe	
1967	CALVIN DEMORY
.....South Mountain	
1966	MIKE BOWLING
.....Avondale Agua Fria	
1965	BILL DIPLEY
.....Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)	
1964	BILL SORCINELLI
.....Phoenix Camelback	
1963	BOB WALLACE
.....South Mountain	
1962	FRED CARR
.....Phoenix Union (jr)	
1961	WILLIE NASH
.....McNary (6-man)	
1960	MORRISON WARREN
.....South Mountain	
1959	ANDY STOGLIN
.....Phoenix Union	
1958	GEORGE HEARD
.....South Mountain	
1957	STEVE VAUGHN
.....Phoenix North	
1956	GORDON SMITH
.....Phoenix West	
1955	WILLIE PEETE
.....Mesa	
1954	BEN ANDERSON
.....Phoenix North	
1953	CHARLES CHRISTOPHER
.....Phoenix Carver	
1952	JACK STOVALL
.....Phoenix St. Mary's	
1951	BOB BLACK
.....Phoenix Union	
1950	JOHN MORGAN
.....Casa Grande	

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- * 231 ..Karl Kiefer,
Mountain Pointe
- 227 ..Edgar "Mutt" Ford,
Mesa
- 227 ..Tot Workman,
Round Valley
- 227 ..Emil Nasser, Winslow
- * 223 ..Jesse Parker,
Mesa Mountain View
- * 208 ...Vern Friedli,
Tucson Amphi
- 204 ..Boone Jackson,
Bullhead City
- * 204 ..Jerry Loper, Chandler
- 200 ..Ralph Moran,
Wickenburg
- *active coach**

190) and Harvey Ely (6-2, 195), both seniors, man the flanks. Young Ray Henling (6-3, 190) is a two-way tackle. Juniors Michael Macedo (5-6, 165) and Garrett DeSpain (6-3, 190) add depth to the linebacking corps. Speedy (4.6) Joshua Johnson (5-10, 155) plays on the corner. When it's time to kick, junior Robert Nelson (6-0, 190) handles the chores.

Still, of the one dozen key players, only four are seniors. Since Hoyt's arrival in 1991, the 'Dogs have gone 2-7, 3-6 and 5-4, a positive pattern. They fell to state runnerup Show Low, 17-14, on the last week of the season. To reach the playoffs, a lot of juniors will have to play like seniors.

ROUND VALLEY

The game of "guess the coach" continues in Springerville, where John Allen officially takes over for Tot Workman. Allen replaces a coach who was one of Arizona's winningest, with a 227-73-3 career mark (see chart). Workman stepped down after the 1987 campaign, but returned two years later after the Elks went 4-5 under Sonny Detmer. Workman's last club finished 2-6-1.

"Because of injuries and a small senior class, we were forced to play a lot of young players," says Allen. "It did not help our record any, but we have a lot

of experience coming back. However, most of the teams in our league were young, too, so we still have a lot of ground to make up."

The Elks have a chance to be very good. Of the 22 starting positions, 18 starters return. Five key players are seniors: OT/NG Jarom Willis (5-10, 175), one of the quickest (4.7) interior linemen in the league; OG/DE Robert Haws (6-7, 245), one of the state's biggest players; speedy (4.6) halfback Mike Brown (5-10, 180); QB/FS Seth Gillespie; and two-way guard Danny Schmerfeld (6-4, 260), no tiny player himself. In fact, with guards Haws and Schmerfeld in the lineup, Round Valley's guards are bigger than those at Arizona State, Arizona or Northern Arizona University. Schmerfeld throws the shot and discus on the Elks' track team. Gillespie is a good hurdler.

Junior Marcus Hughes (5-10, 200) will battle Gillespie for quarterback honors. He also plays linebacker. Classmates Johnny Field (5-7, 155), Tyson Norton (5-9, 165) and Jarod Finch (5-11, 175) are small, but tough two-way performers. Last spring, Norton, as a sophomore, won the pole vault at the state 2A meet with a jump of 14 feet.

The Elks open the season Sept. 2 against Window Rock in the Dome.

HOLBROOK

For the first time since 1989, the Roadrunners won a playoff game. Coach Brian Miller's young club, the region's fourth playoff squad, beat Window Rock 14-6 in the first round, then dropped a 33-14 battle with Bradshaw Mountain. At least six underclassmen, including honors candidate Trent Nichols, started on that 7-4 club. Nichols, a 6-2, 202-pound tight end, is one of the best in the business. He may be moved to fullback, and plays linebacker with the best. He runs 40 yards in 4.9 seconds.

The rest: QB/DB T.J. Ortega, WB/DE Corey Whitten, WR/DB Kawika Stant, TE/NG Ryan Taylor, OG/DE Chad Fulton, OT/DE Galen Knight, OT/DT Nathan Gardner, OG/DE Danial Galvin, RB/CB Jason Downie, OT/DT Lloyd Mendell, and big tackle Aaron Portenier (6-2, 222).

SHOW LOW

It's been a strange year for football fans in Show Low. Midway through the '93 campaign, nobody gave the Cougars much of a chance to reach the playoffs.

But they did better than that. The made the finals. In fact, Gary Mauldin's surprising team entered the title game with a losing record, sporting a 5-7 log. But their cinderella season came to an end, as league rival Snowflake blitzed the Cougars, 30-7.

Then Mauldin, 46-34-1 (.575) in Cougarland, stepped down to tackle the 4A battle grounds at Scottsdale Chaparral. The Cougars went looking for a new coach. They didn't have far to go. Bill Morgan, an assistant at Snowflake for five years, takes over. He's the brother of St. Johns' head coach Mike Morgan.

"The weather up here is not the best for a passing team," says Morgan, who plans to run a more balanced attack, with more emphasis on the running game.

Several old faces still remain. At least three underclassmen started in the finals: TB/DE Jack Johnson (5-11, 180), OT/DT B.J. Reeves (6-1, 270) and OT/DT Byron Clark (6-3, 230). Reeves was all-league as a sophomore. Clark is a junior.

The remaining underclassmen on that 5-8 Show Low club include Dolan Hall, Jarom Lewis, Kyle Maxwell, Jeremy Francis, Eric Quackenbush, Aaron Nikolaus, Kevin Hawkins, Jason Spear, Brandon Hall, Jared Amator, Brenden Eagle, Louis Teel, K.C. Graham, Ryan Brewer, Chris Adams, Alan Frosh, Danny Mills and Billy Grable. Altogether, 20 lettermen return, so the cupboard isn't bare.

3A WEST REGION BRADSHAW MOUNTAIN

The Bears had a better than expected season, falling one game shy of the 3A finals. Coach Steve Moran's young club dropped a semifinal clash with Snowflake to finish 9-3.

"We wish we would have played better against Snowflake," says Moran, 70-37-1 on The Mountain. "But overall, we had a good year."

Last year, the center of attention was the coach's son, junior-to-be David Moran. The 6-0, 175 pound two-way player completed 97 of 177 passes (54%) for 1,776 yards and 22 touchdowns - all school records. So was his 11 interceptions as a defensive back.

The Bears need to find some receivers to plug a few holes, but the rest of the offense looks solid, especially the line. With seniors William Weatherby

(6-2, 235), Scott Compson (6-3, 240) and Nathan Cordova (5-11, 230) returning, Moran's staff has good athletes were it really counts. Cordova had five QB sacks. Up front, part-time starters Dean Sturman (5-8, 230) and Jack Moran (5-10, 225), both juniors, add depth. Senior Greg Martin (5-11, 175) should start at center.

Receivers Dustin Halliburton (6-1, 180) and Jason Edwards (5-11, 185) return. Both catch the ball well. Sophomore Dan Dorsey adds speed, junior Ryan Cosby depth. The Bears' running game should be better. Junior Derek Reidburn (5-9, 160) and senior Herb Keppel (5-9, 160) have played. Reidburn rushed for 463 yards on offense, picked off six passes on defense. Transfer Jason Fore (6-3, 210) could start as a sophomore.

PARKER

It was a rebuilding year at Parker, but fans were still happy, because the Broncos got in the playoffs. Even though San Manuel ended their campaign, 40-14.

"We should be more competitive and much more experienced," claims fifth-year head coach Mike Wolford.

If the Broncos do improve, they need leadership and steady play from these key seniors: HB Bronson Taylor (5-11, 170), HB Ed DeLeon (5-10, 170), QB Brian James (5-10, 180), DL Oscar Welch (5-10, 185), DL Ray Soliz (5-11, 185) and LB Courtney Harper (5-11, 185). Five are good defensive players, so Parker has a shot.

Several good-sized underclassmen return, including Scott Draper (205), Jarad Zovouma (210), Tom Van Hoose (205), Chad Swan (220), Pat Browning (230) and Josh Savino (205), to list a few.

CACTUS SHADOWS

For the Cactus Shadows Falcons, located in Cave Creek, it was a dismal season. The worst in the school's young history. Still, if things are to improve (2-7), the backbone of the squad will be juniors. That's not a real good sign in the tough 3A West.

"It could be rebuilding or it could be special," warns Gerry LaBelle, 51-37-2 in Falconland. "We're very young, with only half a dozen seniors."

One senior with varsity experience is

two-way back Rhett Schubert (6-1, 150), probably the best player in his class. Last spring, he ran the second fastest 400 meter time (51.05) in 3A track.

The rest of the lineup will work around these key juniors: QB/DB Steve Wall, RB/DB Josh Bomar, RB/LB John Carlson, OG/LB Brandon Hall, OG/DT Anthony Cucci, TE/DE Charlie Ullrich and TE/DB Roy Taylor. What separates these underclassmen from the rest of the Falcons is their ability to play both ways.

RIVER VALLEY

Entering their third varsity season, the Dust Devils appear right on schedule. Two years ago Dan Bellini's crew went 3-6. Last year they finished 5-4.

And that club was better than its record, losing one Arizona playoff tie-breaker game, and another on a last minute field goal.

"We were much better than our record," agrees Bellini. "This is our third varsity season and we're ready to get a taste of the playoffs."

Bellini's club looks real strong were it matters most. In the trenches. Starting with all-conference DE Rusty Zahnter (6-0, 175), he has a quick, good high school football prospect. Two-way lineman Jeremy Blancato (5-11, 215) is also a good one. Offensive guard Jerry Shafer (5-10, 170) doubles at LB. Guard Damen Evanson (5-11, 170) is a tough Devil. Two-way backs Justin Davis (6-0, 180) and Brian Neves (5-6, 130) are game-tested. Neves might be the smallest back on the Colorado River.

FOUNTAIN HILLS

This will be the second varsity season for Fountain Hills, and the Falcons are battle tested. A 1-8 season will do that to a new school. Seven of the nine teams they faced reached the playoffs. Only one senior started. "Last year was a learning season for the squad," claims Jim Fairfield. "They showed a lot of determination. We lost only one starter, so we will have a solid unit, and should be competitive."

If healthy, watch for QB Dru Martinson (6-3, 185) to pass for 1,000-plus yards. Wideout Eric Petrone (5-9, 175) and TE Sean Gibson (6-4, 205) are solid targets. Two-way tackle Mike Amdahl (6-3, 220) led the team in tackles. Big Chris Comeau (6-3, 260, jr.) can

start at center, guard or tackle. Casey Huish (6-1, 235) has grown into a big, strong linebacker. He also starts at guard.

CHINO VALLEY

The young Cougars can't seem to get untracked. Coach Cal Tincher's club didn't win a game last year. One the year before. The region's newest entry, located near Prescott, could still struggle. Senior Mike Jones (6-0, 190) is one bright spot at linebacker. However, the rest of the lineup appears to be untested underclassmen, so patience is the name of the game.

3A NORTH REGION WINDOW ROCK

The Scouts, coached by Tom Hatch, won half their league games and landed in the playoffs, where their season ended with a tough 14-6 loss to Holbrook. An even bigger loss will be replacing graduated tailback Aaron Craig, who averaged 230 yards per game, including 426 against Tuba City Greyhills and 274 against Blue Ridge.

"It was the first year for our kids to learn the option," explains Hatch. "We made a lot of progress. Our off-season strength program has really helped."

Fourteen lettermen return, and the biggest is just a sophomore, 6-4, 260 pound two-way tackle Jeff Pourier. He seldom leaves the field. Senior QB Elroy Naswood (5-10, 170) runs the option. Two-way tackle Elridge Anderson (6-1, 290) can also play center. Lambert Benally (6-0, 206) is the best linebacker.

GANADO

The Hornets won the region crown last fall, and with signal caller Jason Curley (5-11, 170), possibly the league's best, returning, Ganado looks tough again. Coach Russell Semore's field general could pass the 3,000-yard barrier before graduation. He also plays in the secondary.

Just like Curley, WR Tim Young (5-9, 150), RB Ivan Begay (5-10, 170) and two-way end Emerson James (6-3, 187) lettered as sophomores. James was one of the best defensive ends in the league.

MONUMENT VALLEY

Two years ago, the Mustangs,

coached by Ed Tano, won a school record nine regular season games, then dropped a playoff tilt in the first round. Last fall his club broke even during regular season play, then were shellacked, 53-8 by Blue Ridge in playoffs.

Only one senior returns, tailback Darwin Reid (5-8, 155), so a youth movement is in the making. Little Dallas Gilmore (5-6, 150) is the starting quarterback. Seniors Conroy Begay and Jay White lettered, White at tackle, Begay at receiver.

TUBA CITY

A 5-4 regular season finish landed the Warriors in the 3A playoffs, the school's best finish since 1986, when TCH went 8-3. Snowflake ended the Warriors season, 34-6 in the first round, so they ended 5-5.

Tackle Thompson Begay (6-0, 220) will anchor the line. Like most Tuba City squads, speed has to make up for a lack of size. Mike Howard (5-8, 175) and Chris Kensley (5-9, 155) are two speedy (4.6) seniors. Kensley rushed for 908 yards on 126 carries. Craig Haven (6-1, 160) returns at quarterback. Little Darian McCabe (5-7, 150) averaged 42 yards on kickoff returns. End Kyle Asley (6-0, 205) is a promising junior.

GREYHILLS

Scoring touchdowns and winning games is the goal at Greyhills, since the Knights haven't won a football contest in two years. Last year's club scored only two touchdowns during the entire season. Keeping returning lettermen in the program is a major problem. Backs George Nasofotie, Junior Goh and Elliott Begay, plus linemen Tom Begay are battle tested and must stay healthy.

3A SOUTH MIAMI

Last year was not vintage Miami. The Vandals, under eight-year mentor Billy Johnson, won only three games. They dropped their season final to Globe in overtime, but still managed a spot in the playoffs. It didn't improve there. Bradshaw Mountain put an end to it. "We got ripped by a great quarterback," says Johnson, referring to the Bears' young signal caller, David Moran.

But enough about last year's 3-7 finish. With 15 letter winners and a solid front line it will be better. Four-year

starter Levi Shaffer (6-3, 240), the Vandals' best down lineman, plus teammates Johnny Flores (6-2, 250) and T.J. Hull (5-9, 180) are good leaders and tough kids.

Miami looks solid at the skill positions, where QB/RB Clint Clayton (5-7, 140) should be a busy man. He played wingback last year. Junior Ronnie Rocha can also run the option. Two-way back Mark Burnham (5-9, 160), only a sophomore, has promise. Senior Ty Rackly (6-1, 200) and junior John Rittenbach (5-10, 165) make up the receiving corps.

GLOBE

The Tigers are stuck in a rut. Coached today by Peter Jonovich, Globe has posted three consecutive 2-7 campaigns. Last year the Tigers first beat Baboquivari 40-7, then rival Miami 29-28 in overtime. At least the season finished on a high note.

This year, it's a youth movement, to say the least. It appears the staff has cleaned house of "senior dead-beats," and plans to go with young players. The key figures are underclassmen: QB Cameron Dowd (5-10, 170), two-way tackle Chris Gonzales (6-2, 210), two-way guard Anson Sneezy (5-10, 185) and two-way back Tim Cook (5-8, 160).

Backs Shelby Greenwall and Tommy Bryant add depth to the Tigers' wishbone backfield. Ditto for John Oddonetto (6-1, 210) and Blake Livinggood (6-7, 280) on the line. The latter was the state 3A shot put champ. Still, it's going to be a rough road to hoe, and Miami will be much improved.

2A NORTH REGION (SOUTH LEAGUE) ST. JOHNS

Coach Mike Morgan's Big Red Machine is on a roll, to say the least. His 1992 near-perfect (12-1) crew stuffed Morenci 20-8 in the 2A title game. Last year they beat up on Superior even worse, 41-6 in the finals. They weren't too kind to state 3A champ Snowflake either, upsetting the Lobos, 12-7. Altogether, they were real mean to 13 different foes.

"It was a tremendous season," says Morgan, 53-7 in the last five years. "That team worked harder and sacrificed more than any other football team at St. Johns."

This year will be different for sure. First, the Redskins will be real young in the line, a strength in the past. Except

for all-state back Marcus Bell, all the skill players will be inexperienced. Bell, a 602, 205-pound two-way starter, rushed for 1,026 yards and scored 11 touchdowns. He averaged 9.9 yards per carry. He runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds and also plays safety.

Linebacker Mike King (6-2, 215), an all-state infielder in baseball, runs the defense. He recorded four QB sacks, 73 solo tackles, 111 assists and two fumble recoveries. With Jeremy Ryan (6-2, 180) in the secondary with Bell, St. Johns has three of the better defenders in northern Arizona. Ryan, with 4.8 speed, also plays wideout.

Quarterback Brad Baca (5-11, 185) is tough enough to also play linebacker. Two-way tackle Dustin Udall (6-3, 240) is next in a long line of exceptional linemen to wear the Red. Junior Sam Naegle (6-1, 195) is a two-way end.

Senior Boyd Lee (6-1, 200), junior Dale Ballejos (6-2, 250) and soph Lonnie Dimbatt (6-3, 235) will help make up the Redskins' front wall. Tobi Pulsipher, Webb Hogie, Harley Morelan, Chip Easley, Jerry Morelan, Ryan Brown, Craig Lisonbee, Vernon Barkley, Nathan Tanner and Joshua Wilhelm add depth to the skill positions.

2A NORTH REGION (NORTH LEAGUE) HOPI

The Bruins, coached last year by Bill Johnson, finished 3-7, only the second losing season in the young school's seven year history of varsity football. Still, they reached the playoffs, falling to Tempe Valley Christian 47-0. This year Chuck Revelette, a former graduate of Permian High School in Odessa, Texas, takes over.

"We have some transfers coming from other schools who not only have experience, but serious size," says the Bruins mentor. "Also, we are cracking the whip in the weight room."

The senior class will supply the size, starting with guard Chris Dashee (6-1, 245) and center Mike Hoanie (6-1, 230), although junior tackle Pernell Mahle (5-11, 215) is no little fellow. Seniors Chris Wytewa (5-8, 165) and Chris Mansfield (5-6, 150) make up the receiving corps.

But the real burner is junior Chuck Goudeau (5-10, 170), a Phoenix South Mountain transfer with 4.3 speed, according to his coach. "I am Chuck's legal guardian. He can flat out fly. I am hoping to get his bench press up to 250

pounds by September. All our linemen are shooting for 275."

MANY FARMS

The Lobos won their half of the league, advanced to the state 2A playoffs, where Superior put a stop to their trip, 49-0. Coach Dean Cunningham's crew finished 6-4. To improve, the Lobos need super efforts from backfield men like Shawn Begay, Tyron Salway and Erickson Honie, or a second straight trip to the playoffs is out.

ALCHESAY

Always competitive within their league, the Pirates went 6-3 before stepping out of the region, then were blasted 42-0 in the 2A playoffs first round. Ray High from Kearny did them in. If experience is the name of the game, the Falcons will be shorthanded. More than half the varsity graduated. However, several underclassmen had good size, including linemen Jensen Ethelbah (5-10, 210), Jeremy Harvey (6-1, 255) and Franco Cosco (5-10, 210). Eight backs return, including juniors-to-be Carlos Massey (5-9, 155), a QB/FS, and Adrian Benally (5-9, 165), a RB/LB. The Falcons' kicker, senior Gilbert Danford (6-3, 180), also plays end.

VALLEY SANDERS

It's still a struggle in Sanders, where the Pirates won just once. Coach Ken Preder's air game was grounded. However, the roster was dotted with

underclassmen, so experience is the name of the game.

Unlike last year, Valley High will go with a senior dominated backfield, which could include players like Jonar Jones (5-8, 140) and Emmanuel Nastacio (5-10, 160). Big tackles like Amoz Tong (5-11, 225) and Duran Reeves (6-3, 277) help anchor the Pirates' line.

2A WEST REGION (NORTH LEAGUE)

WICKENBURG

When head coach Jon Hill has "high hopes" for his Wranglers, West Region foes pay attention. Talk about improvement. With Hill at the helm, WHS has gone 1-7, 7-2-1, 9-2, then 6-3 last fall, dropping a 33-12 contest to Willcox in the playoffs.

"Last season went as expected, but I thought we'd get farther into the playoffs," says the Wranglers' head man. "Our defense kept us in the hunt throughout the season."

Again, the Wranglers are talented in the backfield, with all-everything Sam Laurella (5-9, 180), flanker Isaac Snyder (6-2, 170) and QB Josh Magden (6-2, 180). Laurella, with 4.5 speed, is not only one of the best backs in the league, but one of the fastest. He averaged 10.2 yards per carry, rushed for 1,010 yards and scored 16 touchdowns. His defensive stats: 30 solo tackles, 70 assists.

Jarrad Broyles (6-0, 210) will snap the ball. Two-way tackle Kevin McComb (6-3, 200) has good size and speed (4.9). Young Matt Greene (6-0, 180), only a sophomore, plays guard and linebacker.

Brett Bodine is a top-notch linebacker.

Depth and experience is the name of the game. More than half the varsity returns, including Mario Vigueria, Nathan Curtis, Matt King, Daniel Blakely, John Eberlein, David Young, Mike Anderson, David Kirkland, Chris Bigler, T.J. Thompson, Eben Robinson, Jason Merchant, Tom Irwin, Colin Prescott, Andres Camacho, Cory Kempton and Jeremy Kubler, the league's best shot put and discus thrower.

CAMP VERDE

The Cowboys, usually a playoff club, missed out last fall, and for the train to get back on track, incoming juniors must pick up the slack. Too many seniors graduated. But all isn't gloom. Especially if three-sport star Jared Howard (5-11, 175) returns to his all-state form of two years ago. He caught 36 passes during his sophomore campaign. He's the "go to guy" the Cowboys need to make a run at the playoffs.

SEDONA RED ROCK

The new kid on the block moves in this fall, with a heavy freshmen and sophomore enrollment. An estimated 200 students from Cottonwood will transfer over. This new entry in the 2A West will be called the Scorpions, and will not play a varsity schedule until 1995. Red Rock High, like all new schools, will find the road rocky ahead.



D. L.'s SPORTS JUST DO IT.



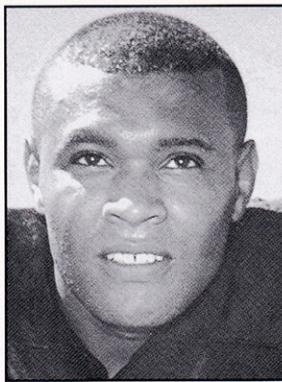
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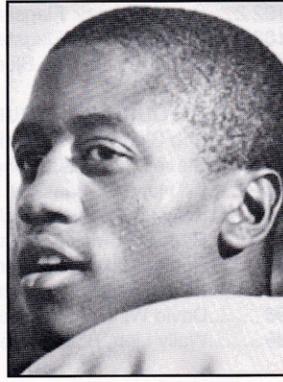
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Prescott**

All-Time Northern Arizona Football Records

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**Caesar Polk,
Flagstaff**

TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)

- 8 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
- 6 Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958
- 6 Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970
- 6 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
- 6 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 6 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 5 Elmer Shull, Kingman, 1927
- 5 Roy Campbell, Prescott, 1945
- 5 Charley Jones, Prescott, 1955
- 5 Terry Penrod, McNary, 1956
- 5 Burton Belton, Winslow, 1958
- 5 Emmett Wesler, Williams, 1961
- 5 James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963
- 5 Lewis Renfro, Winslow, 1963
- 5 Jack Johnson, Round Valley, 1969
- 5 Bud Nash, Kingman, 1970
- 5 Pat Rubio, St. Johns, 1970
- 5 Sid Udall, Round Valley, 1973
- 5 Danny Beckworth, Page, 1975
- 5 Danny Beckworth, Page, 1975
- 5 David Trueblood, Coconino, 1981
- 5 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981
- 5 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
- 5 Scott Heap, St. Johns, 1987
- 5 George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1987
- 5 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1989(jr)
- 5 Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1993 (jr)

TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)

- 35 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981
- 35 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1989
- 33 Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970
- 29 Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975
- 29 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
- 28 Ron Carillo, Round Valley, 1966 (jr)
- 28 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 27 Guy Grover, Prescott, 1987
- 26 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981
- 26 Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981
- 26 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987
- 26 Spencer Ellsworth, St. Johns, 1991 (jr)
- 25 Billy Hatcher, Williams, 1978
- 25 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (jr)
- 25 Josh Freegard, Mingus Union, 1991
- 25 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1992
- 25 Heath Melton, Mingus Union, 1993 (jr)

TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)

- 70 Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1988-91
- 62 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85
- 60 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1988-90
- 59 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81
- 53 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991-92
- 52 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1978-81
- 51 Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1969-71

POINTS (GAME)

- 48 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
- 38 Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958
- 38 Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970
- 38 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
- 36 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 36 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)

POINTS (SEASON)

- 244 Jeremy Hathcock, B.R., 1989 (jr)
- 229 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981
- 214 Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970
- 180 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
- 180 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987
- 168 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 162 Billy Hatcher, Williams, 1978
- 162 Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981
- 162 Guy Grover, Prescott, 1987
- 156 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981
- 156 Spencer Ellsworth, St. Johns, 1991 (jr)

POINTS (CAREER)

- 420 Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1988-91
- 402 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1988-90
- 377 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81
- 372 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85
- 324 Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1969-70
- 320 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991-92
- 316 Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1969-71
- 315 James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1960-63
- 312 Tom Fruth, Round Valley, 1978-81

RUSHING YARDS (GAME)

- 469 Stanley Jackson, Chinle, 1976
- 426 Aaron Craig, Window Rock, 1993
- 403 Joey Capps, Mohave, 1993
- 402 Burton Belton, Winslow, 1958
- 330 Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958

- 329 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
- 311 Joey Capps, Mohave, 1993
- 303 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (jr)

CARRIES (GAME)

- 48 Joey Capps, Mohave, 1993

RUSHING YARDS (SEASON)

- 2,187 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (jr)
- 2,123 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981
- 2,114 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
- 2,111 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981
- 2,062 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1989
- 1,926 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr)
- 1,911 Ammon Lambson, St. Johns, 1990
- 1,893 Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1993 (jr)
- 1,876 Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981
- 1,847 Aaron Craig, Window Rock, 1993
- 1,826 Harold Smith, Ganado, 1987 (jr)

RUSHING YARDS (CAREER)

- 4,985 Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1988-91
- 4,880 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85 (3)
- 4,461 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81
- 4,265 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1978-81
- 3,877 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1988-90
- 3,794 John Udall, Round Valley, 1982-84
- 3,736 Chris Matthews, RV, 1979-81
- 3,370 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991-92
- 3,268 Jeff Holley, Blue Ridge, 1986-88
- 3,220 Spencer Ellsworth, St. Johns, 1990-92

AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (SEASON)

- 13.4 Sid Udall, Round Valley, 1973
- 13.4 Mike Gonzalez, Flagstaff, 1983
- 12.3 Scott Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980
- 11.8 Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958
- 11.2 Fred Whipple, Snowflake, 1954
- 11.0 James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963
- 11.0 Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975
- 10.8 Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1990 (jr)
- 10.5 Jay Smith, Snowflake, 1979
- 10.4 Jeremy Hathcock, BR, 1989 (jr)
- 10.4 Dustin Johnson, Round Valley, 1990

AVERAGE YARDS PER GAME (SEASON)

- 230.9 Aaron Craig, Window Rock, 1993

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192.2David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
 182.3David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (jr)
 181.0Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1990

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN

99Bob Bledsoe, Flagstaff, 1963
 99Steve Moncibaez, Mingus, 1985 (so)
 98Bill Hannah, Winslow, 1950
 98Kelly LeSuer, Round Valley, 1976
 97Reggie Edwards, Page, 1973
 97Dennis Baker, Blue Ridge, 1983
 96Danny Beckwith, Page, 1974 (jr)
 96David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985
 96Wally Lien, Blue Ridge, 1985

QUARTERBACK SNEAK (TOUCHDOWN)

99Bob Bledsoe, Flagstaff, 1963
 99Steve Moncibaez, Mingus, 1985 (so)

PASSING YARDS (GAME)

449Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 440Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 435Gentry Gillespie, Round Valley, 1991
 393Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 393David Nelson, Parker, 1988
 380Paschal Kinsel, Chirile, 1977
 365Mike Orewyler, Mohave, 1977
 362Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 354Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983
 354Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 318Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 309Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982
 306Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990
 302Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982

PASSING YARDS (SEASON)

2,923Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 2,719Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982
 2,351Yancey Ayres, Coconino, 1993
 2,098Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983
 1,969Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990
 1,902Bryan Baker, Blue Ridge, 1991
 1,895Sammy Cockerel, Coconino, 1992
 1,837David Nelson, Parker, 1988
 1,822Dave Davison, Coconino, 1984
 1,776David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1993 (so)
 1,767Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1989 (jr)

PASSING YARDS (CAREER)

5,291Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988-90
 4,375Joel England, Camp Verde, 1988-90
 4,026Travis Hill, Kingman, 1988-90
 3,823Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1988-90
 3,741Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982-83 (2)
 3,500David Nelson, Parker, 1986-88
 3,326Dave Davison, Round Valley, 1984-85
 3,276Eddie Hamblin, Coconino, 1979-81
 3,042Bryan Baker, Blue Ridge, 190-91

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (GAME)

7Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 6Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983
 6Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990
 5Joe Atterholt, Page, 1969
 5Eric Ramsey, Snowflake, 1983
 5Bert Gough, Flagstaff, 1984



During a 36-28 loss to Flagstaff Coconino, Bullhead City's Joey Capps rushed for 403 yards on 48 carries and scored three touchdowns.

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)

26Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 25Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990
 24Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982
 23Joe Atterholt, Page, 1969
 23Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983
 23Bret Hood, Camp Verde, 1987
 22Mike McMahn, Prescott, 1987
 22David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1993 (so)

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)

47Joel England, Camp Verde, 1988-90
 45Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1988-90
 42Travis Hill, Kingman, 1988-90
 41Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988-90
 40Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982-83 (2)

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS

99Keola Bandman to Matt Hanners, Page, 1986
 97Eddie Hamblin to Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1981
 96Rick Gwynne to Mike Epperson, Flagstaff, 1988

RECEPTIONS (GAME)

19Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 18Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr)

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)

18Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 18Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 17Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 17Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 13Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
 13Hermon Logan, Round Valley, 1991
 12Dusty Eagar, Round Valley, 1980 (jr)
 12Ky Christiansen, Lake Havasu, 1987
 12Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 12Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
 12Steve Padilla, Kingman, 1993

RECEPTIONS (SEASON)

89Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr)
 83Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 77Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 77Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
 66D.L. Nikolaus, Snowflake, 1962
 60Tony Tate, Snowflake, 1982
 59Clifford Nodman, Hopi, 1989
 57Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1990
 56Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1989 (jr)
 54Brian Maxwell, Show Low, 1989
 53David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1990

RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

135Mike Johnson, Parker, 1987-89 (3)
 133Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1988-90
 132Herman Logan, Round Valley, 1988-91

RECEIVING YARDS (GAME)

321Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 318Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
 313Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 299Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
 289Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)

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239Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
234Darrin Parker, Prescott, 1983 (jr)
230Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983

RECEIVING YARDS (SEASON)

1,276Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
1,220Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
1,110Mark Young, Coconino, 1993
1,088Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
983Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1981
978Vince Pulsifer, Round Valley, 1978
953David Merrill, Show Low, 1990
933David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1989 (jr)
913Clifford Nodman, Hopi, 1989
905Tony Tate, Snowflake, 1982

RECEIVING YARDS (CAREER)

2,137Herman Logan, Round Valley, 1988-91
2,126Mike Johnson, Parker, 1987-89 (3)
1,936Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1979-81
1,870David Merrill, Show Low, 1988-90

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (GAME)

5George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1987
4Marcellus Spradley, Winslow, 1943
4Mike Flake, Snowflake, 1982
4Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)

15Gerald Urlaub, Bradshaw Mtn., 1991
14Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982
13Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988
13Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989
12David Merrill, Show Low, 1990
11Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)
11Mike Johnson, Parker, 1988 (jr)
11David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1989 (jr)
10Bill Black, Coconino, 1982
10Greg Book, Kingman, 1989 (jr)
10Greg Book, Kingman, 1990
10Mark Young, Coconino, 1992 (jr)

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

24Mike Johnson, Parker, 1987-89
23Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1979-81
20David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1989-90
20Greg Book, Kingman, 1989-90

INTERCEPTIONS (SEASON)

12Chad Ence, St. Johns, 1989 (jr)
11Chris Patterson, St. Johns, 1977 (jr)
11Drayton Martin, Round Valley, 1987
11T. D. Hall, Blue Ridge, 1988 (jr)
11Willie Martinez, Parker, 1988
11David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1993 (so)
10P. Holt, Mingus, 1968
10Stuart Moring, Round Valley, 1980
10George Pryer, Flagstaff, 1982
10Eric Lane, Coconino, 1983
10James Merrill, Mingus, 1988
10Travis McClendon, Mingus, 1990

INTERCEPTIONS (CAREER)

24Troy Gilliland, Parker, 1982-85 (4)
20Chad Ence, St. Johns, 1989-90

INTERCEPTIONS (GAME)

4Kevin Stars, Window Rock, 1974
4Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
4Tommy Stamps, Bradshaw Mt., '88 (jr)
4Jason Edwards, Kingman, 1993
3Nate Bly, Winslow, 1961
3James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963
3Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1970 (jr)
3John Frawley, Mohave, 1973
3John Land, Winslow, 1976
3Tim Pettit, Williams, 1977
3Dean Severns, Kingman, 1977
3Mike Boggio, Kingman, 1979
3Stuart Moring, Round Valley, 1980
3Darren Turley, St. Johns, 1982
3Lesi Broyles, Coconino, 1984
3Roger Pfeiffer, Kingman, 1989
3Sean Beaty, Camp Verde, 1989 (jr)
3Todd Owen, Camp Verde, 1989 (jr)
3Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990
3Rob Stoneburger, Mingus, 1990
3Jim Richardson, Brad. Mtn., 1991 (jr)

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN

104Bill Kerr, Kingman, 1952
103Greg Turner, Flagstaff, 1978
102Edgar Brown, Williams, 1968
100Mark Faucher, Winslow, 1971

TD INTERCEPTIONS (GAME)

3Nate Bly, Winslow, 1961

FIELD GOALS (GAME)

4Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980 (jr)
4Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981
3Art Kerrick, Coconino, 1978
3Rick Savedra, Round Valley, 1970
3Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1974
3James Crutchfield, Snowflake, 1975
3Richard Lowell, St. Johns, 1977
3Jim Long, Kingman, 1982
3Chris Ellis, Blue Ridge, 1987
3Andrew Stuck, Tuba City, 1988

FIELD GOALS (SEASON)

11Tony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1976
11Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981
11Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983 (jr)
10Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1974
10Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984
10Mike Cook, St. Johns, 1990 (jr)

FIELD GOALS (CAREER)

21Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983-84
20Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1980-82
19Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1972-74
19Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81

LONGEST FIELD GOALS

52Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984
51Hank Lopez, Flagstaff, 1975
51Brian Rau, Flagstaff, 1990
50Brian Abraham, Kingman, 1979
48Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1973 (jr)
48Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1984
48Jarom Willis, Round Valley, 1993

47Tony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1976

47Art Kerrick, Coconino, 1978

47Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1983

PATS (GAME)

12Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)
9Cowen Hamblin, Round Valley, 1973
9Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)
8Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)
8Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)

PATS (SEASON)

50Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)
48Joe Caldwell, Snowflake, 1993 (jr)
44Kenny Walker, Round Valley, 1980
43Blaine Crowther, Snowflake, 1992
42Dawson Gofourth, Flagstaff, 1985
41Brian Rau, Flagstaff, 1988 (so)

CONSECUTIVE PATS

45Dawson Gofourth, Flagstaff, 1984-85

PATS (CAREER)

109Blaine Crowther, Snowflake, 1990-92
91Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81
88Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1980-82

LONGEST PUNT

90J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr)
89Dom DeMark, Prescott, 1991
87Don Ohnstead, Snowflake, 1949
80Lee Daniels, Kingman, 1943
78Jack Miller, Flagstaff, 1960
78David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1990

PUNTING AVERAGE (SEASON)

52.0J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr)
49.3Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987
46.8Gary Williams, Blue Ridge, 1974
46.4Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
46.3David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1990
44.7Jose Pombo, Flagstaff, 1990

LONGEST FUMBLE RECOVERY (TD)

99Ryan Noble, Show Low, 1988
98Mike Hayes, Kingman, 1967
97Mike Baughman, Kingman, 1981
97Mike Esquibel, Kingman, 1993

LONGEST PUNT RETURN (TD)

98Derald Cox, Flagstaff, 1968
97Charley Jones, Prescott, 1955
97Don Track, Parker, 1968
96James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1962
96Andrew Porter, Flagstaff, 1985

TOUCHDOWNS-PUNT RETURNS (GAME)

3Paul Russell, Flagstaff, 1934

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN (TD)

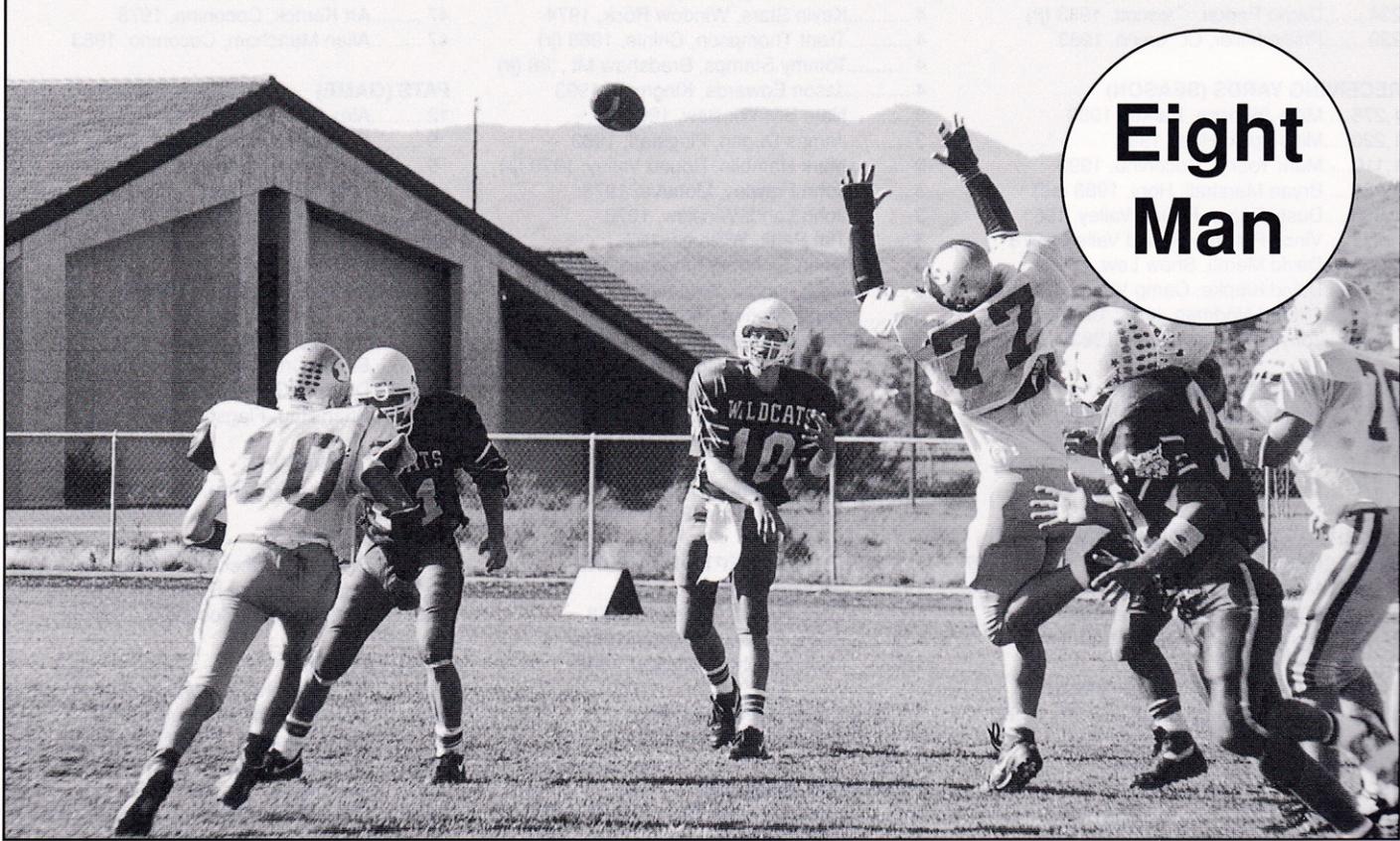
105George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1988
100Brian Robinson, Kingman, 1983
99Kelly LeSueur, Round Valley, 1975 (jr)
99Tony Squieri, Lake Havasu, 1981
99Myran Hansen, Coconino, 1986 (jr)
99Danny Caputo, Sinagua, 1993

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Last year, Wildcat quarterback Jason Kelly, just a sophomore, passed for 1,182 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Mayer's Day in the Sun?

MAYER

Day or night, this Wildcat squad will be tough to beat. Since many of Arizona's smaller 1A schools have no lights, afternoon games, often on Saturdays, are common. But day or night, the '94 edition of Vince Cayhill's Wildcats will come to play.

Last year was a rebuilder. Twenty underclassmen dotted the roster. After an 0-2 start, including a 70-28 loss to Williams, the Cats' got up off the deck, tied for the 1A West title, got into the playoffs, and finished runnerup to Williams in a wild 68-40 finals.

"Some of the best players to ever put on a Mayer uniform are returning," warns Cahill, 60-19-0 in eight years on The Hill. "We need to fill a few vacant spots, but expect to be a playoff team. We have excellent runners, passers, receivers, and tough defenders."

One of the runners is senior Paul Hines (6-1, 190), who rushed for 1,413 yards, scored a school record 34 touchdowns, and 216 points. He runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds and caught seven TD passes.

One of the passers is junior Jason Kelly (6-1, 165), who completed 84 passes after 175 attempts (48%) for 1,182 yards, 13 touchdowns and 13 interceptions.

One of the receivers is senior Mike Gutierrez (6-2, 210), who caught 29 passes for 382 yards and six touchdowns. He averaged 13.2 yards per catch.

Defensively, all-state LB Clay Kelton (5-11, 190) aided in 183 tackles, 68 solo. He also starts at center. Junior DB Tim Walsh (6-0, 165) joins Hines and Kelly in the secondary. Junior Bryan Patterson (5-8, 145) and soph Dustin Cook (5-8, 140) are young, two-way players. Cook averaged 29.0 yards on eight kickoff returns. The two starting guards, Willie Coburn (5-10, 165) and Robert Gibson (5-11, 165) are also underclassmen. Still, good-sized linemen appear to be the missing links. "We need to rebuild on the offensive and defensive lines," concludes Cahill.

WILLIAMS

It was the Vikings all the way. From start to finish. Excluding a thrilling 24-18

win over Mogollon in OT, an unbeaten season was never in doubt. Coach Rick Shipley's preseason favorites established nine state championship game records during a 68-40 win over Mayer, including 108 points scored by two teams. It capped a perfect 11-0 season, and was the Vikings' first outright crown. Coach Shipley's 1989 squad tied Scottsdale Christian in the 8-man finals.

"We lost 10 seniors but return 21 lettermen," says Shipley, 39-10-1 in Williams in five years. "We should be alright. We return the best QB and the best running back in 8-man ball."

That QB is senior Jeff Dent (6-1, 210), a first team all-stater who completed 120 of 169 passes (71%) for 2,012 yards and 32 touchdowns. Only seven were intercepted. He also plays linebacker, and was an all-state infielder in baseball.

Junior back Edgar Solano (6-0, 170) fills in for graduated Jerome Sanchez, who rushed for 1,187 yards. Solano, with 4.6 speed, rushed for 786 yards. He caught 38 passes for 841 yards, and scored 32 touchdowns. End Sam Davis (6-1, 170) caught 29

passes for 443 yards. In baseball he was a first team all-state outfielder. Center Andy Anderson (5-11, 180) doubles in the secondary.

Seven freshmen lettered, including 245 pound two-way tackle Danny Leonet. He's the biggest Viking in camp.

ORME SCHOOL

The Warriors, off to a slow start, finished strong and won the 1A West. A 26-8 loss to Clifton in the playoffs ended their season at 5-4. "With a lot of good kids back, we should be a strong contender," warns head coach Bob Miller, 128-94-8 in the profession.

One reason for optimism is junior Bernard Rock (5-9, 150), one of the best all-round athletes in northern Arizona. The all-state receiver, with 4.5 speed, averaged 27.5 yards per catch. He scored 26 touchdowns, 14 on catches, eight rushing, three on kick returns and one a pass interception. An all-state guard in basketball, he averaged 26.7 points per game.

"Even though we lost to Clifton in the playoffs, Bernard was really impressive in that game," adds Miller, whose club scored 38 points against state champ Williams. "We need to get the ball in his hands more often."

Senior guard Cody McDonald (5-11, 198) was the Warriors' leading tackler, consistently making the big play. Defensive end Eric Woodard (6-1, 205) is quick (4.9), strong and a good pass rusher. Alvin Saenz (5-9, 202) is one of the best linebackers in the league. In fact, he may line up at fullback, with Rock a possible halfback. Senior Tim Johnson (5-9, 175) will call the signals. Soph Randy Bowles (6-1, 180) will back Johnson at QB.

Big Scott Roberts (6-3, 203), a two-way end, and stocky Steve Gross (5-8, 181), a two-way guard, are game-tested seniors. The Warriors open at Ajo Sept. 2, then host state champ Williams at The Ranch.

MOGOLLON

It's been a history of improvement, where young Mogollon, under coaches Phil McBride, Rocky Nelsen and Tim Slade have gone 4-5, 8-3, 6-2, 7-3, and 8-2 in the school's five-year history. Last year's club lost an overtime thriller, 24-18 to Williams, in the last league game of the season. Still, the Mustangs advanced two weeks into the playoffs, falling to Mayer in the semis and finishing 8-2.

"We have a returning starter at QB, which is always nice," says second-year coach Slade. Senior Jody Tenney (5-10, 155) started all 10 games. But the biggest and best Mustang in the corral is a junior,

1994 8-Man Poll

1. Mayer Wildcats
2. Williams Vikings
3. Orme School Warriors
4. Mogollon Mustangs
5. Fredonia Lynx
6. Salome Frogs
7. Bagdad Sultans
8. Seligman Antelopes
9. East Fork Eagles
10. Joseph City Wildcats

two-way tackle Matt Owens (6-3, 225).

Senior leadership, not to mention good football ability, shows in OL/DL Randy Tenney (5-10, 190), RB/DE Brad Reidhead (5-8, 145, state 1,600 meter champ), WR/DB Treg Baum (5-9, 150), and secondary aces Daron Johnson (5-8, 140) and Mitchell Reidhead (5-7, 140). Johnson, with 4.6 speed, was a member of Mogollon's state champion 400 meter relay team. Soph Wendell Crandell (5-7, 160), with 4.8 speed, could start at TB.

FREDONIA

Young players grew up quick at Fredonia, where "Mont" Griffiths' Lynx finished last in the region, 2-6 on the season. In 27 varsity seasons, Griffiths is 126-78-4 in 8-man ball. Almost all of Fredonia's club is back, and improving the defense is a high priority. Last year the Lynx gave up 338 points, most in the league.

Wes Bingham (one of the league's best linemen), Matt Bingham, Eric McCormick, Jeff Hines, Jake Bundy and Rusty Ford, all familiar names and younger brothers of former star players, return. If they stay healthy, the Lynx should break even, or better. As recent as 1991, Fredonia won 10 games and tied Patagonia in the 1A finals.

SALOME

The Frogs, 2-6 last year, need to shore up their defense, which yielded 329 points. Coach Dan Wolfe has enough experienced players returning to get the job done "if we stay healthy," he adds. Two of the best players in the 1A West wear the Green & White: OG/DE Marshall Clark (5-10, 185), a three-year letter winner, and kicker Orlando Cleto (5-5, 145), a junior who averaged 39.3 yards per punt, landing all-state votes.

Underclassmen will still have to carry the load, but most are varsity-tested,

including RB/LB Shawn Leach (5-11, 205), QB/DE Justin Valentine (5-9, 150), and RB/DB Jason Karr (5-8, 148), juniors all. The Frogs open on the road against Mogollon High.

BAGDAD

It was a learning experience for the Sultans, who finished 1-7 and gave up 50.6 points per game. First-year coach Rod Dominguez, with half his club back, sees the Sultans giving out a few headaches of their own this year. "We have a lot of tough kids," he claims. "I'm hoping we at least go .500. But we could surprise a lot of people."

The man to stop will be do everything senior Ronnie Williams (6-0, 155), who can run and catch, and play a mean defensive end. He runs 40 yards in 4.7 seconds. Sophomore guard Ben Elliott (6-2, 220), junior guard James Mankely (6-3, 250) and FB/LB Clint Walker (6-0, 220) should be around for a while.

EAST FORK

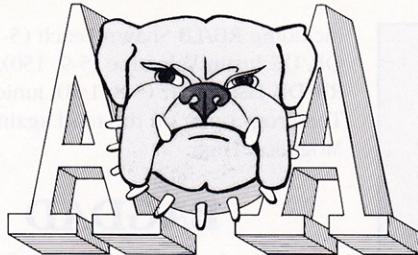
The will be the Eagles' second year of 8-man football, so improvement is the name of the game. East Fork, located in Whiteriver, finished 2-6 in the 1A Central. Coach Joe Archer greets only eight letter winners, so a .500 season will be an improvement. "We're going to improve," claims the head coach. "It would be nice to make the playoffs."

In the league standings, the Eagles beat out two schools, but gave up 315 points in eight games. That trend must stop. Scoring should be no problem, with QB Kirk Massey (6-2, 190) and WR Shawn Riesop (6-1, 180) one of the better pitch-and-catch combos in the league.

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Gone To The Dogs?

Winslow's Bulldogs, once a football powerhouse in the Northland, have fallen upon hard times.

Today head coach Rich Hoyt and his staff are working to get the 'Dogs back on track.

By BARRY SOLLENBERGER

Really, it's no different than most western towns, dotting the plains along Interstate-40, where truckers and travelers come and go.

Winslow, located in the high desert of Arizona's northeastern plateau, sits at 4,850 feet, less than 200 miles from Phoenix. In 1881, the Atlantic & Pacific Railway Company established a terminal at Winslow's present location. It later changed its name to the Santa Fe Railway. The new town was named after General Edward F. Winslow, president of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad, and vice-president

of the Atlantic & Pacific.

Soon, the Aztec Land and Cattle Company bought a million acres of land from the railroad, and thousands of head of cattle were brought into the region.

Winslow's growth was rapid, and when the town was incorporated in 1900, the economy was booming. Then came statehood in 1912. The advent of the automobile further enlarged the population, making Winslow a major stopping point for travelers along historic Route 66, which today runs through the core of

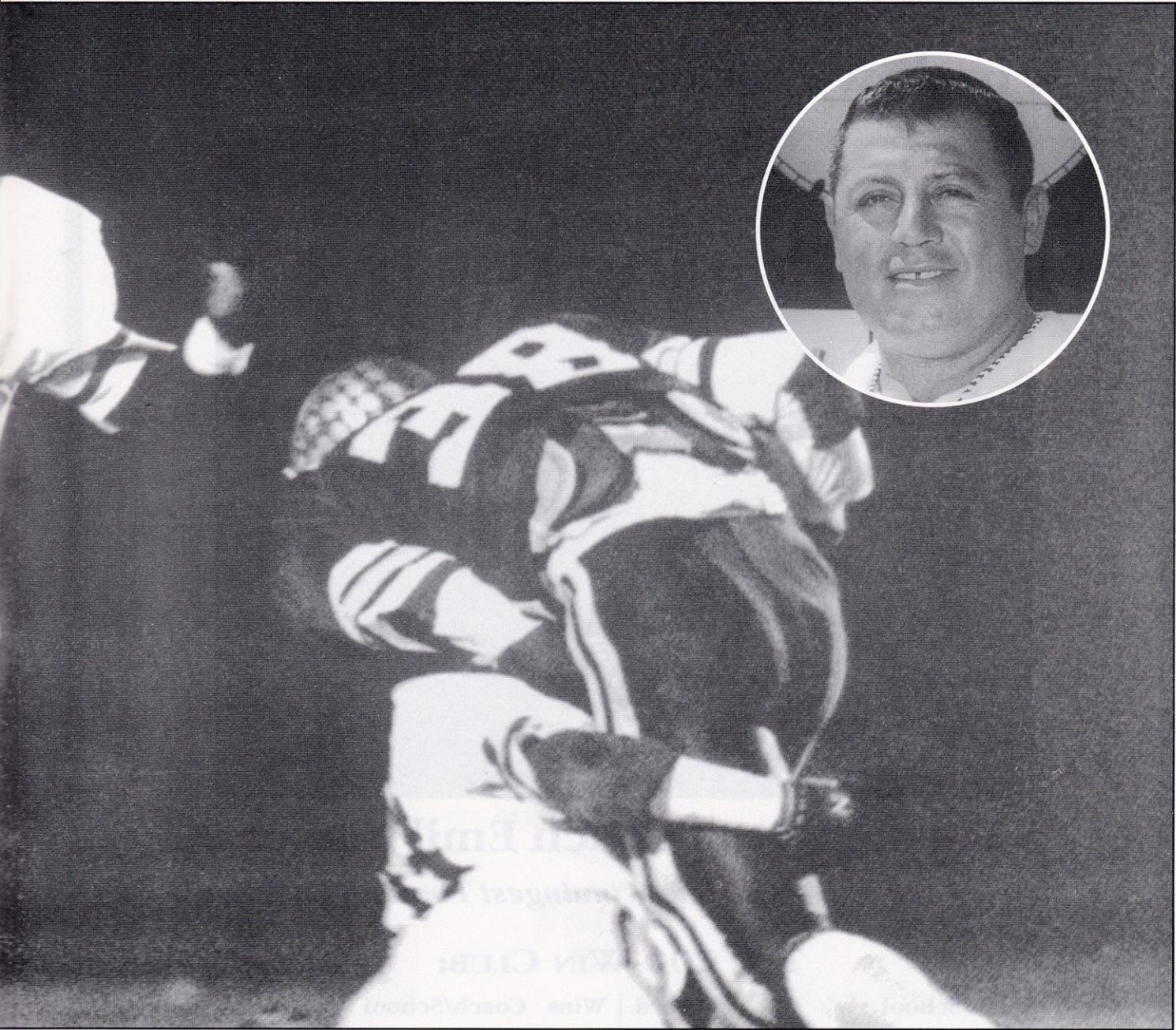
the town.

Within 50 miles in any direction, one can visit Petrified Forest National Park, Meteor Crater, Grand Falls or Walnut Canyon National Monument.

But in the fall and winter months, if you're a Winslow resident, you don't have to leave town to entertain yourself. On Friday nights you can check out the local high school football team. The Bulldogs. Or you can stay home and listen to the game on KINO Radio.

For more than half a century, it was the best show in town. It was Bulldog football on Friday night that separated





In a 1991 contest, Winslow's Jimmy Scott helps make a tackle during an all too common scene: Winslow losing to Snowflake in a football game, 34-13. (Nick Worth photo)

Winslow from most northern Arizona towns. The 'Dogs were "tough as nails."

Between 1947 and 1981, playing in the state's second largest classification, Emil Nasser, one of Arizona's legendary coaches, guided the 'Dogs through 35 years of exciting, championship-caliber football. He compiled a 227-91-8 career mark - to this day a state record for most wins by a coach at the same school. Since 1915, only three Arizona high schools have won more football games than Winslow.

But times have changed.

Today, the school plays in the 3A East Region. In Arizona, Class 5A is largest. When the 'Dogs finished 5-4-0 last year, it was the school's first winning record in five seasons. Winslow last competed in the playoffs in 1988, when a Rick Cue-coached club finished 7-4-1. Today, the 'Dogs are coached by Rich Hoyt.

A former head coach at Williams, Snowflake and Glendale Independence high schools, Hoyt won back-to-back state championships in 1985-86 at Snowflake. At Williams, his prize players included the Hatcher

brothers, Billy and Johnny. Today, Billy is a starting outfielder with the Philadelphia Phillies. Hoyt enters the 1994 campaign with a 112-68-4 career mark.

"When I arrived we were one of the smallest schools in the league, enrollment-wise," said Hoyt in 1991. "Still, the school always has excellent speed at the skill positions. That's a start. But we must develop linemen to be a contender. Especially in this league."

In his first season, the 'Dogs went 2-7, but won their first league game in three years. "We were decent," he

Winslow Salutes a Great Bulldog!



Former Head Coach Emil Nasser

"One of Arizona's All-Time Winningest Football Coaches!"

THE 200-WIN CLUB:

Wins	Coach/School	Record
*231	Karl Kiefer, Mtn. Pointe	231-82-3
227	"Mutt" Ford, Mesa	227-64-17
227	Emil Nasser, Winslow	227-91-8
227	Tot Workman, Round Valley	227-73-3
*223	Jesse Parker, Mtn. View	223-61-3

Wins	Coach/School	Record
*208	Vern Friedli, Amphitheater	208-82-2
204	Boone Jackson, Mohave	204-71-6
*204	Jerry Loper, Chandler	204-99-10
200	Ralph Moran, Wickenburg	200-104-3
<i>*Active Coach</i>		

Records prior to the 1994 season. Source: Phoenix Metro Football Magazine

Co-Sponsored by the Winslow Letter Club & Winslow High School
Winslow, Arizona
"Coach, We Salute You!"

insisted. "We played well at the end."

Last year, Hoyt's third at the helm, the school won its 400th game, a 20-9 win over Round Valley. Only Mesa (528), Tucson (476) and Safford (433) have won more football games than Winslow High School.

Nobody is quite sure when the school played its first football game. But in 1915, a Guy Brubaker-coached Winslow squad lost all five games. Arizona Teachers College, located in Flagstaff, beat the 'Dogs twice, 12-7 and 19-13. Clarence Thorpe coached the college boys, which today is Northern Arizona University. The 12-7 contest, played in Winslow, was the college's first recorded football game.

The local high school lost six consecutive games to the older college team before upsetting the Lumberjacks 6-0 in 1919. That Winslow squad was coached by John Branigan. The 'Dogs were to win their first league crown one year later, when an Eddie Clark-coached club finished 5-3-1 and was declared Northern Arizona champions.

Clubs like the Santa Fe Shop Team and Flagstaff Emerson dotted Winslow's early schedules, plus historic high schools which no longer exist, like Jerome, Clarkdale and the Truxton Canyon Indian School.

In 1927, J.B. "Buck" Wilson's unbeaten squad recorded seven shutouts in eight games. Only Jerome's Muckers crossed the Dogs' goal, but Winslow prevailed 13-6. During a 31-0 win over Kingman, every single store in town closed between 2:15 and 4:30 p.m. for the key afternoon matchup.

Early heroes? Plenty. In 1922, tackle Jay Sutherland became the first 'Dog to land all-state honors, picked by *The Arizona Republican*. In 1923, Joe Tully went 90 yards with a fumble recovery against Williams, but it wasn't enough. The 'Dogs lost 7-6.

Wilson's 6-1-1 club in 1930 lost an 18-14 heartbreaker in Prescott, played for the conference crown. Earlier near Jerome, Louis Giragi went 90 yards with a pass interception during an important win over Clarkdale.

With fullback George Dietz in the lineup, Wilson's club finished 8-2 in 1931 after losing the season final to Flagstaff 20-0, played in ankle-deep mud and zero weather conditions.

Altogether, Dietz scored 17 touchdowns, three during the first-ever game with Holbrook. Giragi added a 75-yard punt return during the Dogs' 32-0 win. Winslow's only other loss was to Prescott, a 7-6 setback played before 2,000 fans on Armistice Day.

Wilson retired after the 1941 campaign, a 2-5-1 finish. It gave the long-time Winslow mentor a 67-38-18 career record. Assistant Glenn Olmsted replaced him for one season, but the war years were taking its toll, and Bill Armstrong was hired in 1943.

Many residents give Armstrong credit for getting the Bulldog program back in gear. In his first campaign, the Dogs finished 8-1 and won the '43 conference title. After dropping their opener in Gallup, N.M., Armstrong's club, captained by tackle Duane Mosley, averaged 30 points in conference play. During a 38-7 win over Snowflake, Marcus Spradley caught a school record four touchdown passes.

The 'Dogs matched that feat one year later, earning co-champion honors with Prescott after a game with the Badgers could not be arranged. However, Winslow dropped their opener to Gallup again, as the Bengals prevailed 18-0. That Gallup club won the New Mexico "large school" crown and finish with a 12-0 record.

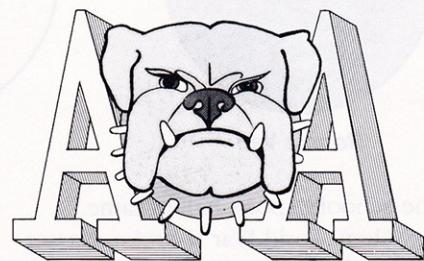
During Armstrong's short tenure, the 'Dogs went 8-1, 7-1 and 5-1-2 for an .869 winning percentage. Ironically, Olmsted returned after the war to coach the '46 unit. Then the school hired Emil Nasser.

Although born in Louisiana, Nasser grew up and graduated from Miami High School in southeastern Arizona. Along with end Hugh Clark, Nasser was co-captain of the 1938 Vandal football squad, coached by Nick Ragus.

On Thanksgiving Day, Nasser's play at tackle and his important extra point kick earned him the "game ball" and enabled Miami to tie powerful Globe 7-7 in the decade's biggest upset. That Globe team finished 11-0-1 and won the Arizona state championship - all classes combined. Miami finished 1-6-2.

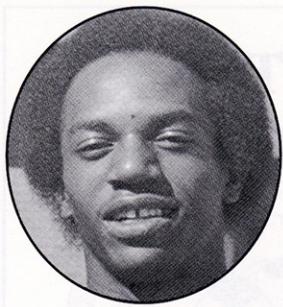
His play earned him a scholarship to Arizona State College at Flagstaff. In 1981, he was a charter inductee into

Top 'Dogs



Winslow's first team all-state selections,
SOURCE: *The Arizona Republic*

- QB .. Tine Lopez, 5-11, 165, 1964
- QB .. Marty Durkin, 6-2, 180, 1972
- RB .. Buddy Campbell, 5-11, 185, 1950
- RB .. Paul McCormick, 5-8, 148, 1953
- RB .. Lee Wasdon, 6-0, 160, 1955
- RB .. Gary Cox, 5-8, 160, 1961
- RB .. Lewis Renfro, 5-11, 165, 1963
- RB .. Mike Madeo, 6-0, 205, 1964
- RB .. Roosevelt Van, 5-7, 145, 1968
- RB .. Tommy Easley, 5-11, 180, 1972
- RB .. Dwain Smith, 6-1, 190, 1973
- RB .. Sigfried Ezell, 5-11, 160, 1975
- RB .. Fred Campbell, 5-11, 185, 1976
- OE .. Mike Peart, 6-2, 185, 1964
- OE .. George Kleindienst, 6-2, 185, 1969
- OE .. Rod Campbell, 6-1, 175, 1970
- OE .. Roy Atkins, 6-3, 160, 1973
- OL .. Jay Sutherland, 5-10, 160, 1922
- OL .. Gene Goldsberry, 6-2, 180, 1955
- OL .. Ricky Cooper, 5-11, 175, 1961
- OL .. Mike Curtis, 6-0, 195, 1963
- OL .. Mike Lopez, 6-3, 220, 1964 (jr)
- OL .. Dan Nasser, 6-0, 210, 1968
- OL .. John Brookerson, 6-1, 250, 1969
- OL .. Gary Moody, 6-0, 175, 1970
- OL .. Art Gallegos, 6-0, 210, 1970
- OL .. Mike Day, 5-10, 185, 1973
- OL .. Dick Kolomitz, 6-1, 220, 1976
- OL .. Steve Simonton, 5-10, 205, 1983
- OL .. Bryan Padilla, 6-2, 235, 1991
- LB .. Ray Martinez, 5-10, 170, 1968
- LB .. Tom Gillmore, 6-0, 185, 1969
- LB .. Paul Smith, 6-0, 220, 1976
- LB .. Tom Butler, 5-11, 190, 1985
- LB .. Boonie Smith, 6-0, 210, 1993
- DL .. Robert Neill, 6-2, 195, 1971
- DL .. Tony Hopper, 6-0, 215, 1971
- DL .. Len Surrell, 6-3, 190, 1976
- DL .. Allen Bollin, 6-2, 205, 1977
- DL .. David Sedillo, 6-0, 215, 1977
- DL .. Ken Noe, 6-0, 195, 1978
- DL .. Tom Hardy, 6-2, 175, 1980
- DB .. Bennie Smith, 6-0, 170, 1968
- DB .. DeWayne Luther, 5-10, 165, 1969
- DB .. Kevin Peters, 5-10, 170, 1975
- DB .. John Land, 5-10, 160, 1976
- DB .. Germaine Mayberry, 5-11, 175, 1987
- DB .. Devon Sawyer, 5-10, 168, 1989
- K .. Dean Roney, 5-9, 155, 1983 (jr)



Ronnie Van



Roy Atkins



Lee Wasdon



Tommy Easly

the school's sports hall of fame.

When World War II broke, Nasser joined the Air Force and spent two years in the India-China-Burma theater as a Tech Sergeant and Flight Engineer. He was awarded the Air Medal, a Presidential Citation, and other military honors.

In 1947, Nasser rejected an offer to play professional football with the Los Angeles Dons, and accepted the coaching job at Winslow High.

"The first year I taught here, we were able to enroll 125 boys in the football program," Nasser recalled. "The athletic department grew through the years. I believe every boy should have the opportunity to play on a team of some kind in some sport."

Nasser and his wife Barbara, a Winslow graduate, were married in 1948. He served as swimming pool director, head baseball coach and track coach at one time or another, in addition to his football duties, and estimates that he worked with 5,000 Winslow boys in 35 years.

Nasser's philosophy in handling players and other students was a tough one. Few can argue with the results. "I've got to treat the kids fairly, but at the same time, I have to set my standards high," he once said. "There's nothing drastically wrong with kids these days. But we see too many permissive parents. That's a problem."

Pro football's loss was high school football's gain. Especially in Winslow. His first club tied Flagstaff 14-14 to finish 6-1-1 and co-champs of the league. His 1948 squad was declared Class B state champs after an 8-1 finish. The Dogs' only loss was a 45-14 thumping by Albuquerque High. One year later Albuquerque, with an enrollment three times that of Winslow's, again handed the 'Dogs their only loss, but Nasser

had another "mythical" state champion.

In 1950, the 'Dogs lost twice, but Nasser produced his first super star, 185-pound fullback Buddy Campbell. After scoring three touchdowns against Holbrook, including a 95-yard kickoff return, Nasser said of his prize back,

"He's the best I've ever coached."

The season final was a thrilling 20-13 win over St. Johns. Although Bill Hannah's 98-yard run from scrimmage broke the Redskins' back, Campbell's surprising 90-yard TD pass to John Paul won the game. A post season contest scheduled with Las Vegas High was shelved because the Nevada school qualified for the state playoffs. Still, at this time, Arizona had no official playoffs for football.

As Winslow's football machine rolled on, stars were plentyfull. In 1952, a freshman named John Dunigan rushed for 208 yards against Kingman, a 40-12 rout for the 'Dogs. The defensive star for Kingman was one-armed guard Lalo Covarrubias.

Speedy Lee Wasdon scored 24 touchdowns in 10 games, 139 points on the season, as the 'Dogs landed another conference crown in 1955. During a 13-0 win over Tempe, all-state tackle Gene Doldsberry scored on an 88-yard run with a pass interception.

The 'Dogs were murder on Phoenix area schools. Wasdon scored four times and rushed for 226 yards on 13 carries during a 40-12 win over Sunnyslope. One week later he scored four again, including a 77-yard kickoff return, as Tolleson fell 32-7.

The Belton brothers, Winstel and Burton, were murder on Flagstaff High. In a 1957 contest, won by Winslow, Burton scored three times and Winstel twice during a 39-0 rout. It was this Bulldog club which lost a 34-6 game in Glendale, a contest stopped

by a bench-clearing brawl. Windows were later broken out of the Winslow bus.

One year later, during a 30-21 win at Prescott, Burton averaged 36.5 yards on 11 carries, rushed for 402 yards and scored five touchdowns. His longest scoring dash was 75 yards; shortest 57. Meanwhile, brother Winstel was becoming a JC All-America back at Eastern Arizona College in Thatcher. Former fullback Jim Calhoun was on the varsity at Florida State.

In 1960, Cranston Hysong became the next in a long line of Bulldogs to rush for 1,000 yards, averaging 8.1 yards per clip on 1,225 yards. By this time the Arizona Interscholastic Association had adapted a playoff system. It didn't take the 'Dogs long to get involved.

In 1961, Nasser's small by quick club finished its regular season schedule with a 59-0 rout of Paradise Valley. Lewis Renfro, Gary Cox, Tim Rhodes and Dee Martin went through, around and over the hapless Trojans, as Winslow finished 8-1. But in the first round of the playoffs, a bigger, more physical Yuma Kofa squad handed the 'Dogs a 10-7 defeat.

It was Winslow's once-beaten 1963 club which gave the coach his 100th win, a 36-13 victory over Peoria. Mike Madeo and Lewis Renfro scored three touchdowns each. Renfro's came on an 85-yard punt return, a 65-yard interception return, and a short pass from quarterback Isaac "Spider" Bonds - quite possibly the town's most legendary athlete.

A quarterback in football, Bonds was a scoring machine in basketball. During the 1963-64 cage season he averaged a state record 40.1 points per game, with high games of 51 points against Phoenix Indian School, and 50

against Snowflake. He averaged a state career mark of 35.7 points during a three-year varsity stint.

With Bonds at quarterback the Bulldogs lost only three football games, and in November of '63 an 18-12 win over Phoenix Christian sent Winslow on a 20-game winning streak.

With all-stater Tine Lopez calling the plays, 200-pound fullback Mike Madeo scoring 16 touchdowns, and with big linemen like Mike Lopez (6-3, 220) opening holes, Nasser's '64 club finished 10-0 and gave the town its first Class AA state crown - a rough 7-0 win over Tucson Flowing Wells. Popular Arizona State head coach Frank Kush was the guest speaker at the Dogs' annual awards banquet.

One year later, Peoria ended the Dogs' 20-game streak in the first round of the playoffs, 33-7. Earlier, Winslow had defeated Tempe's newest school, McClintock, 13-0 in a Saturday struggle at old Goodwin Stadium on A-State's campus. Bill Heath and Walter Van were too much for the young Chargers.

The 'Dogs hit rock bottom in 1966, winning only once. They were beaten 52-13 by Cortez, Colorado. It was the worst loss in Nasser's tenure. But the 'Dogs regrouped and one year later beat Cortez 20-19 in a thriller in Winslow. Quarterback Johnny Brown and backs David Black and Roosevelt Van guided Winslow through a 7-2 campaign.

Without a doubt, one of Winslow's all-time best teams came in 1968. The likes of Van, Bobby Cox and Joe Benham were almost unstoppable.

Almost.

A midseason loss to Coconino, in the rain in Flagstaff, kept the 'Dogs out of the A.I.A. playoffs. The weather conditions slowed Winslow's racehorse backfield to a crawl in a 6-0 loss. It was the only blemish on a near-perfect slate, which included a 40-12 win over Tucson Sahuarita.

So impressive was Winslow at seasons end, both state prep polls rated them No. 1 in the state. In fact, for the first and only time in Arizona sports history, both Tucson High (AAA) and Winslow (AA) finished No. 1 in the state's final polls - and neither were advancing to the playoffs.

In 1969, Winslow didn't lose a regu-

lar season game, going 9-0. The best game was an October matchup with No. 3-rated Paradise Valley, before 4,000 homecoming fans. Right after a key Trojan touchdown was erased by a clip, Bob Benham threw a 50-yard strike to Rod Campbell. Bedlam broke out in the stands, and Campbell was carried off the field by his teammates. In the playoffs, in a classic matchup of two outstanding AA teams, Safford nipped the 'Dogs 26-24 in Tucson.

The 1971 campaign started with a bang, as Mark Faucher, in the Dogs' opener with Holbrook, stole the first Roadrunner pass and went 100 yards with an interception. Winslow won 36-6 and later gave their head coach his 13th league crown. In October, James Davis' 90-yard kickoff return wasn't enough as the 'Dogs fell to Flowing Wells, 28-22. "It was a real donnybrook," explained Nasser.

In what had grown into a bitter rivalry, Davis was later to score four times during a 38-6 rout of Coconino. Another 90-yard kickoff, this time against Agua Fria, sealed a 32-22 win and the league crown.

But in a playoff rematch with Flowing Wells, this time at Mesa Community College, Winslow was forced to play without five starters. The Tucson school won 40-0, ending the Dogs' season at 9-2.

Although Nasser's 1973 club finished 7-2-1 and missed the playoffs, it featured one of the school's more historic games, a 26-24 win over eventual state champ Coconino. It was called "one of the greatest prep games ever played in the Northland," by *Winslow Mail* sports editor Fran Groom.

Played at Cromer Stadium at Coconino High School, a capacity crowd was on hand to witness a rock-'um, sock'um game from the opening whistle to the last second of the contest. The home team's star was quarterback Ray Smith. However, key Winslow players Seigfried Ezell and Loren Yazzie were lost for the season to knee surgery.

One week earlier, the 'Dogs had upset defending state champ Agua Fria 22-14 in a game dedicated to assistant coach Herman McArthur, who left for Texas for a medical checkup. With 23 seconds left Joe Zukowski threw an 89-yard touchdown strike to Roy

Atkins to win it.

Another terrific Winslow-Coconino clash came in 1975, when 5,000 fans at Cromer witness a 22-22 tie. The *Arizona Daily Sun* called the thriller "one of the finest football games ever seen at Cromer Stadium." Willard Reaves, the Panthers' star halfback, later starred in the Canadian Football League.

In October, Winslow became a small part of history when the 'Dogs joined Flagstaff, Holbrook and Coconino in a double-header at Northern Arizona's old Lumberjack Stadium. The visitors lost five of eight fumbles in a 13-0 loss to Flagstaff.

In 1976, two Winslow backs, Fred Campbell (1,154) and Monte Garner (1,040) rushed for 1,000-plus yards in the same season. But the 9-1 campaign ended on a sour note, a 27-0 playoff loss to Tucson Canyon del Oro. The outcome was disheartening to Nasser.

"I accept the responsibility for the loss," he said. "We felt we were adequately prepared, despite the difficulty in obtaining films for scouting. I'm proud of the way our team hung in there until the end. We didn't play one of our better games and CDO has a good team, They got the breaks early.

"With the exception of the outcome, it has been one of the most enjoyable and exciting seasons I've experienced. The townspeople, fans, administration, students and football staff gave us tremendous support.

"The news media, The Winslow Mail, The Reminder, The Daily Sun, KINO-Radio and KOAI-TV in Flagstaff were great.

"My greatest satisfaction though, comes from the players themselves. They are, without a doubt, one of the finest groups we've had in 30 years. But, in addition, they were true spokesmen and gentlemen all the way. They gained the respect of people everywhere. The whole community should be proud of them."

In 1977, the 'Dogs mean Maroon Machine rolled on. Gallup, that old New Mexico AAAA rival, fell 33-7. But the first big game came in October, when 6,000 fans looked on as Winslow edged Coconino 7-2 in the first Arizona prep game staged indoors, in the new Enspire at Northern Arizona University.

Quarterback Shawn Smith scored on an 8-yard sweep for the Dogs' only touchdown.

Two weeks later, Winslow's return trip to the Dome was just as rewarding, a 21-8 win over Flagstaff. But the playoffs weren't, as the 'Dogs dropped a 15-0 contest to Gilbert in the first round to finish 9-2.

The classic matchups with Coconino continued. In 1978, the Panthers' Art Kerrick booted a 45-yard field goal with one second left to beat the 'Dogs 17-14. Warren Wilhoite's 94-yard kick return went for not. During a 40-16 win over Snowflake, nose guard Kenny Noe had a school record 24 tackles. Incredibly, the 'Dogs had only 10 plays from scrimmage in the first half, totaling 32 yards, and trailed 3-0. Then they scored 40 points in less than 11 minutes.

It was not a playoff season, but Nasser's last campaign in 1981 was special. The last two games, a 15-14 upset of eventual state champ Flagstaff, and a 23-7 win over Tuba City was typical Bulldog.

Against Flagstaff, Nasser's club trailed 14-0 at half, but the Eagles, overwhelming favorites, witnessed football's autumn madness at Bulldog Stadium, and a packed house watched Ray Land's two-point catch win it.

One week later it was "Emil Nasser Day" in Winslow, and rightfully so. Charles Anderson scored three touchdowns and Quinton Oso booted a school record 34-yard field goal in a win over the Warriors. He missed a 47-yarder by inches. (In 1984, Bulldog Dean Roney made a 52-yarder against Coconino.)

The day, honored by a proclamation signed by Mayor Dick Bates, had added luster as a party of long-time Flagstaff friends attended the coach's last game.

On hand to present a plaque to Nasser was Paul Sweitzer, *The Daily Sun* feature writer; Bill Epperson, former head coach at Coconino High; Flagstaff teacher Fred Stockhaus, who played against Nasser when they were college freshmen; John Ply, former head coach at Flagstaff High; and Dr. Joseph Rolle, dean of student services at NAU, to name a few.

In typical Nasser fashion, his final period was all defense, and he substituted his entire 40-man squad, including members of the junior varsity who suited up.

Altogether, his teams won 227 games, 16 league titles and three state championships. He was the 1964 Arizona coach of the year, and in 1984 was inducted - in the initial group - to

the Arizona Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Exactly 42 of his players (see chart) landed first team all-state honors. Today he shares time between a home in Winslow and one in Rocky Point, Mexico.

In the last two decades, the school, like the town, has changed. In 1980, Winslow High School listed an enrollment of 921 students. Today the old building holds 790. Like all communities it is directly related to the economy.

Winslow no longer has a railroad terminal. Gone is a former radar base. Interstate-40 bypasses the town. Many shops and businesses which once lined historic Route 66 are closed. The population, once over 10,000, has dipped below 9,000. A once solid black community, which produced many of the school's great athletes, has drastically changed. Families are moving out, not in.

However, athletic director Don Petranovich, himself a Winslow grad, has coached in the system for 25 years and sees an upward swing. "I look for a change," says Petranovich, an assistant football coach for more than a decade, and today the state's winningest active girls basketball coach. "Things go in cycles. Yes, a lot of our neighborhoods have changed. We were blessed down through the years with a lot of outstanding black athletes. And a lot of good, big youngsters.

"At one time you couldn't get a coaching job in town," he adds. "They were all filled. We were so strong in every sport, every young coach wanted a job in Winslow. Nasser had the same coaches on his staff for years. Coaches like Carl Weatherton, who also coached baseball. That gave the program stability. All good high school programs have stability in the coaching ranks."

In the four seasons after Nasser's retirement, Winslow went through three different head coaches: Jim Baker, Doyle Holt and Art Griffith, a long-time assistant who also coaches the baseball team. Rick Cue replaced Griffith, and now it's Hoyt's turn.

Go 'Dogs!



Keeping players in Winslow has been a recent problem. Derrick Land, one of the fastest backs on the planet, and an All-American in track, transferred to Mesa Red Mountain.

The Cottonwood Cue

Salutes the
Yavapai County
Players of the Year

1993 Heath Melton, Mingus Union, RB (jr)
1992 James Richardson, Bradshaw Mtn., QB
1991 James Richardson, Bradshaw Mtn., QB
1990 Jake Barnes, Mingus Union, OT
1989 Jake Barnes, Mingus Union, OT (jr)
1988 Sam Austrino, Prescott, DL
1987 Guy Grover, Prescott, RB/DB
1986 Corey Suttles, Prescott, C
1985 Tim West, Prescott, DB
..... Chris Grover, Prescott, DL
1984 David Anderson, Bradshaw Mtn., RB
1983 Brian Schar, Prescott, QB
1982 Mike Rehmet, Orme Ranch, C
1981 David McElvain, Bradshaw Mtn., DB
1980 Curt Devereaux, Prescott, DL
1979 Joe Pruzina, Prescott, DL
1978 Art Martinez, Mingus Union, DB
1977 David Soriano, Mayer, LB
1976 Jim Tatum, Prescott, RB
1975 Ron Lott, Prescott, OL
1974 Steve Corson, Mingus Union, RB
1973 Marvin Dotson, Mingus Union, E
1972 Bobby Manriguez, Prescott, WB/DB
1971 Bobby Manriguez, Prescott, WB/DB (jr)
1970 George Kagele, Prescott, DL
1969 Max Castillo, Mingus Union, G
1968 Joe Flagnik, Prescott, C
1967 Dennis Kendrick, Prescott, DB
1966 Raymond Acosta, Ash Fork, C



Heath Melton rushed for 1,628 yards and scored 25 touchdowns. (Bill Dosham photo)

1965 Frank Murdock, Camp Verde, B
1964 John Parker, Mingus Union, G
1963 Clifford Bird, Camp Verde, QB
..... Wayne Hodges, Camp Verde, E
1962 Joe Rudy, Camp Verde, HB
1961 Kenneth Fait, Orme Ranch, HB
1960 Don Wilson, Bagdad, C
1959 Don Wilson, Bagdad, C (jr)
1958 Walter Edge, Camp Verde, E
1957 Kenny Davis, Ash Fork, FB
1956 Roger Threlkeld, Orme Ranch, FB
1955 Charlie Jones, Prescott, RB
1954 Charlie Jones, Prescott, RB (jr)
1953 Bob Pirtle, Prescott, T
1952 Virgil Howard, Prescott, C
1951 Virgil Howard, Prescott, C (jr)
1950 Frank Thomas, Cottonwood, G
..... Jim Casillas, Jerome, G
1949 Dale Peterson, Cottonwood, C

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-Adolf Hitler, one month before Jesse Owens won 4 gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games.



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